

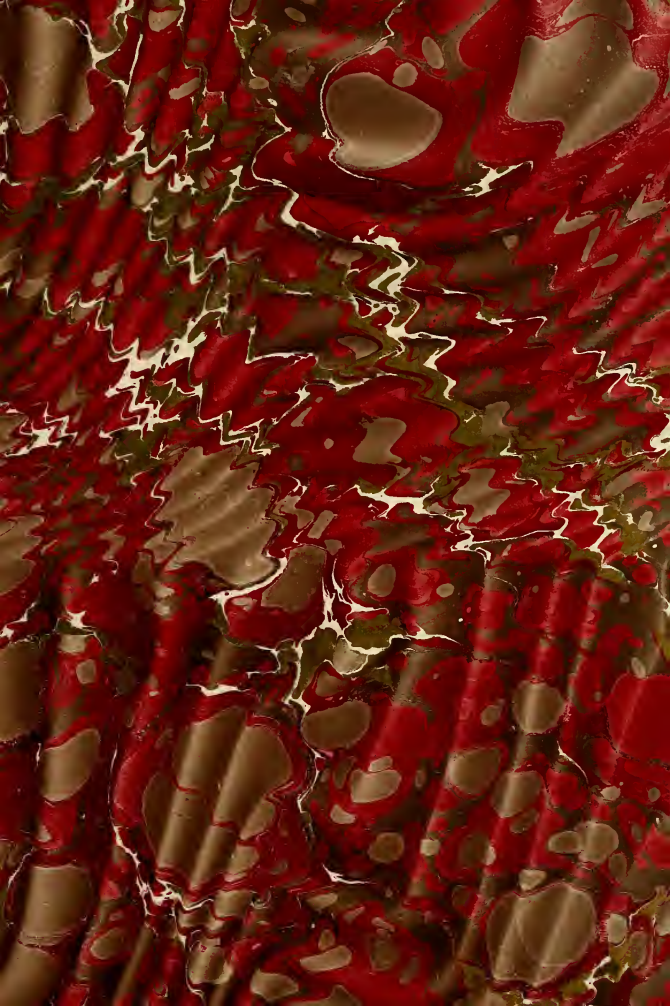
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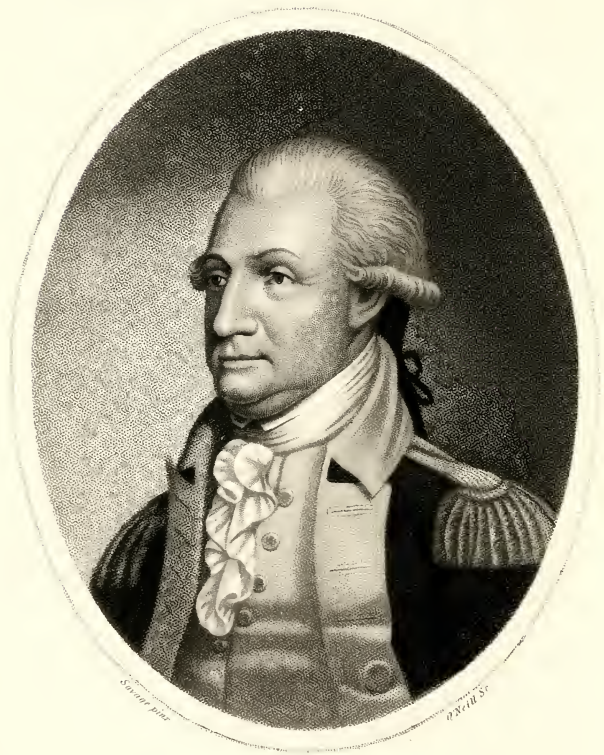








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THE  
*WASHINGTONIANA:*

CONTAINING  
A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

OF THE LATE  
**Gen. George Washington,**

WITH VARIOUS  
OUTLINES OF HIS CHARACTER,

From the pens of different eminent writers, both in Europe  
and America;

AND  
An Account of the various Funeral Honors devoted  
to his Memory.

TO WHICH ARE ANNEXED  
HIS *WILL* AND *SCHEDULE* OF HIS *PROPERTY*.

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*Embellished with a good Likeness.*

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BALTIMORE:  
PRINTED AND SOLD BY SAMUEL SOWER, No. 190,  
MARKET-STREET, M,DCCC.



O H WASHINGTON! thou hero, patriot, sage!  
Friend of all climes, and pride of every age!  
Were thine the laurels, every foil could raise,  
The mighty harvest were penurious praise.  
Well may our realms, thy Fabian wisdom boast;  
Thy prudence sav'd, what bravery had lost.  
Yet e'er hadst thou, by Heaven's severer fates,  
Like *Sparta's* hero at the Grecian straits,  
Been doomed to meet, in arms, a world of foes,  
Whom skill could not defeat, nor walls oppose,  
Then had thy breast, by danger ne'er subdued,  
The mighty *Buckler* of thy country stood;  
Proud of its wounds, each piercing spear would bless,  
Which left *Columbia's* foes one javelin less;  
Nor felt one pang—but, in the glorious deed,  
Thy little band of heroes too, must bleed;  
Nor throbb'd one fear—but, that some poison'd dart  
Thy breast might pass, and reach thy *Country's* heart!

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH  
OF  
General George Washington,

By JEDIDIAH MORSE, D. D.

Pastor of the Church in CHARLESTOWN.

THE death of this great man has rendered an account of his life particularly desirable. To a nation whose feelings seem to be absorbed by this afflicting event, whose attention is chiefly directed to the contemplation of the resplendent virtues of the deceased father of his country, every circumstance of his life has become interesting.

I have not the vanity to assume to be the biographer of General *WASHINGTON*. This arduous, honorable and useful task, is probably assigned by proper authority, to a man competent to its execution, and who is already, or will be, in possession of all the requisite documents for so important a work. But having heretofore given to the public, in a work\* designed for their use,

\* *The American Geography.*

a brief sketch of his life, I hope they will not consider it as presumption in me, if, with a view to satisfy, in some degree, solicitous inquiries on the subject, and as a humble tribute to the memory of the *first of men*, I revise and enlarge this sketch, and in an improved form, at this moment of general feeling, offer it to their perusal.

The late General *WASHINGTON* was born in the parish of Washington, Westmoreland county, in Virginia, February 22d, 1732. He was the third son of Mr. *AUGUSTINE WASHINGTON*, a planter or farmer of respectable talents, distinguished reputation, and large estate in Virginia. The ancestors of this gentleman, about the year 1657, removed from Yorkshire in England, to Virginia, and settled in King George's county, where, at the commencement of our revolution, the general had three brothers living, viz., *SAMUEL*, *JOHN* and *CHARLES*, all gentlemen of considerable landed property, and a sister, the wife of Colonel *FIELDING LEWIS*.\*

\* See a letter written at an early period of the American Revolution, by John Bell, Esq., of Maryland, to a friend in Europe, and published in the *Massachusetts Magazine* for March, 1791.



The General was the first fruit of a second marriage. His early education, conducted by a private tutor, under the direction of his father, was such as favored the production of an athletic and vigorous body, and the formation of a correct and solid mind. Inhaling a pure mountain air, accustomed to the healthful occupations of rural life, and to the manly toils of the chase, his limbs expanded to an unusual, robust, but well proportioned and graceful size, adapted to endure the fatigues of his future life, and to sustain the active energies of his noble soul.

By his tutor he was taught the rudiments of the Latin language, English grammar, and the elements of the mathematics. At the age of ten years, his father died, and the charge of a numerous family devolved on his eldest brother, Mr. LAWRENCE WASHINGTON. This brother, a young gentleman of most promising talents, had a captain's command in the colonial troops, employed against Carthagera, under Admiral Vernon. On his return from this expedition, he married the daughter of the Hon. Wm. Fair-

fax, of Belvoir, and settled on his patrimonial estate, which he called Mount Vernon, in honor of his admiral, from whom he had received many civilities. He was afterwards made adjutant-general of the militia of Virginia, but did not long survive his appointment. He left one daughter, who dying young, and his second brother also having deceased without issue, the General succeeded to the family seat, and to a very considerable landed estate.

It is a circumstance which ought not to be here omitted, that, at the age of fifteen, he was entered a midshipman on board a British ship of war stationed on the coast of Virginia, and his baggage prepared for embarkation; but his mother, then a widow, expressing her reluctance at his engaging in that profession, the plan was abandoned.

The office of adjutant-general, made vacant by the death of his brother, in consequence of the extensive limits of the province, was now divided into three districts; the future hero of America, before he had completed his twen-

tieth year, began his military service by a principal appointment in that department, with the rank of Major.

When he was little more than twenty years of age, an event occurred which called forth his great talents into public notice and exercise. In 1753, the French from Canada, aided by the Indians, whom they engaged for the purpose, made inroads and encroachments upon the western frontiers, along the Allegany and Ohio rivers. Orders were received from England, by the Governor\* and Council of Virginia, to repel by force these encroachments. It was however thought a prudent preliminary step, to make an effort to prevent open hostilities, by friendly and spirited remonstrances to the French, and conciliatory overtures to the Indians. Major WASHINGTON was deputed to undertake this important and perilous embassy. Accordingly he was dispatched by the Governor, with a letter to the Commander in Chief of the French on the Ohio, complaining of the infractions of the trea-

\* *Lieut. Governor Dinwiddie at this time administered the Government.*

ties subsisting between the two crowns; and with instructions and plenary powers to treat with the Six Nations and other tribes of Western Indians, and to secure their attachment to England. He commenced his journey late in October, with about fifteen attendants, and endured the fatigues, and performed the duties of his mission, with singular fortitude, industry, intelligence and address. When he returned with Monsieur de St. Pierre's answer, and gave information of his success in his negotiations with the Indians, he received the approbation and thanks of his country. His journal\* and report to Governor Dinwiddie, which were published at the time, early announced to the world, that strength and correctness of mind, ease and manliness of stile, and that judgment, method, and accuracy in doing business, which have since characterised him in conducting more arduous affairs. His journal for many years after, proved of essential service to travellers into that western wilderness.

*\* This Journal was published in the Massachusetts Magazine for June and July, 1789, from a copy sent to the writer of this, from his correspondent in Virginia.*

Notwithstanding the remonstrances made by the government of Virginia to the French commander on the Ohio, through Major WASHINGTON, hostile operations in that quarter were still continued, as part of a meditated plan of general attack upon the then British colonies. In this state of things, orders were received from the mother country, for the colonies to unite, and prepare to defend themselves. The assembly of Virginia took the lead; and early in the year 1754, voted a sum of money for the public service, and agreed to raise a regiment of 400 men for the defence of the frontiers of that colony. Mr. Fry, one of the professors of the college of William and Mary, was appointed Colonel of this regiment, and Major WASHINGTON, then about twenty-three years of age, received the commission of Lieut. Colonel. Col. Fry died shortly after his appointment, and left his regiment and rank to the second in command.

Col. WASHINGTON now was indefatigable in his efforts to form his regiment, to establish magazines, and open roads so as to pre-occupy

the advantageous post at the confluence of the Allegany and Monongahela rivers (now Pittsburg) which he recommended for that purpose, in his report the preceding year. Impressed with the necessity of expedition in accomplishing this important object, without waiting for a detachment of independent regulars, and some companies of provincials from the neighboring colonies, who were expected to join him, he commenced his march in the month of May.

On his way, at a place called Red Stone, he met a strong party of the French and Indians, which he engaged and routed, after killing and capturing fifty of the enemy. Among the prisoners was the celebrated *Monf. de la Force*, and two other officers, from whom *Col. WASHINGTON* received intelligence, that the French forces on the Ohio consisted of upwards of 1000 regulars, and several hundred Indians, and that they had already erected a fort at the post he had intended to occupy, which they called *Fort du Quefne*. Upon this intelligence, he took his station at a place called *Great Meadows*, for the convenience

of forage and supplies, where he built a temporary stockade, to cover his stores, and named it Fort Necessity. Here he waited the arrival of expected succours from New-York and Pennsylvania, but was joined by Capt. M'Kay's regulars, only, which increased his force to about 400 effective men. He remained unmolested till July, when he received information from his scouts, that a considerable party of the enemy was approaching to reconnoitre his post; he sallied and defeated them; but in return was attacked by an army of French and Indians, computed to have been 1500 strong, under the command of the Sieur de Villiers. The little garrison made a gallant defence, of several hours, during which they killed nearly 200 of the enemy, and more than one third of their own number were either killed or wounded. The French commander, discouraged by such bold opposition, proposed a parley, which terminated in an honorable capitulation. Col. WASHINGTON, at the head of his troops, quitted the Fort with the honors of war, agreeable to the articles of capitulation, and carried with him his military

stores, and baggage ; but the French commander, either unable or unwilling, did not restrain his Indian auxiliaries from plundering the provincials, and making a considerable slaughter of men, cattle, and horses. After this disaster, the remains of the Virginia regiment returned to Alexandria to recruit.

The British ambassador at the court of Versailles was directed to remonstrate to the French government against the breach of the articles of capitulation above mentioned ; and this may be considered as the period when the French court began to unmask, and to discover that the conduct of its governors and officers in America, was in conformity to their orders. After this, warlike preparations on the frontiers were made by the French with redoubled activity, and were continued through the winter of 1754, and the spring of 1755.

During this period the government of Virginia raised an additional number of troops, who built Fort Cumberland, and Fort Loudon, and formed a camp at Wills Creek, a situation con-



venient for the annoyance of the enemy on the Ohio. In all these services, and particularly in the erection of the forts, Col. WASHINGTON was actively and principally employed.

At this time, May 1755, Gen. Braddock arrived at Alexandria, from England, with two veteran regiments from Ireland, to which were joined the independent and provincial corps in America, and at the head of this army he was to repel the invaders of the colonial frontiers. Upon the royal arrangement of rank, by which "no officer who did not *immediately* derive his commission from the king, could command one who did," Col. WASHINGTON resigned his commission, and as a volunteer and extra Aid-de-Camp, joined Gen. Braddock. The army marched directly for Fort du Quesne, by the route of Wills Creek. No person was so well acquainted with this route as Col. WASHINGTON, and no other officer in the colony, at this time, sustained so high and well established a military reputation; and had his counsel been sufficiently regarded, there is reason to believe the misfor-

tunes which followed would have been prevented. In his route Gen. Braddock unexpectedly, and of consequence, unpreparedly, met a large body of the enemy. Without detailing minutely the particulars of the hard fought and bloody battle which ensued, and which terminated in the total defeat of Braddock's army, which consisted of 2000 regular British forces, and nearly 800 provincials, I shall only say, in the words of the respectable and correct writer,\* to whom I am indebted for many of the facts contained in this sketch, that "it is allowed on all sides, that the haughty behavior of Gen. Braddock, his high contempt of the provincial officers and soldiers, and his disdainful obstinacy in rejecting their advice, were the causes of this fatal disaster. With what resolution and steadiness the provincials, and their gallant commander (Col. WASHINGTON) behaved on this trying occasion, and in covering the confused retreat of the army,† let every British officer and soldier confess, who were

\* *John Bell, Esq.*

† See *Capt. Orme's Letter to Gov. Dinwiddie, and also the other accounts of that day.*

rescued from slaughter on that calamitous day by their valor and conduct."

To this information it is proper to add, that Col. WASHINGTON was the only officer whose duty obliged him to be on horseback during the battle, who was not either killed or wounded. Providence seemed to reserve him to save from utter destruction the wreck of a defeated army. Having secured their passage over the ford of the Monongahela, and finding the enemy did not pursue their victory, Col. WASHINGTON hastened to concert measures for their further security, with Col. Dunbar, who had remained some distance in the rear, with the second division of the army and the heavy baggage. To effect this, he travelled, with two guides all night, through a dreary wilderness, notwithstanding the fatigues of the preceding day, and the enfeebled state of his health, having but imperfectly recovered from sickness. So exhausted was he in the morning, that he was obliged to be supported with cushions on his horse. The public accounts of this affair, both in England and America, were not parsimo-

nious of applause for the essential service he rendered his country on so trying an occasion.

Not long after this time, the regulation of rank, which had been so injurious to the colonial officers, was changed to their satisfaction, in consequence of the discontent of the officers and the remonstrance of Col. WASHINGTON; and the government of Virginia, impressed with a due sense of his merits, gave him, in a new and extensive commission, the command of all the troops raised and to be raised in that colony. This commission he held with signal credit to himself, and advantage to his country, till 1759; when tranquillity being restored on the frontiers of the middle colonies, and his constitution having become extremely enfeebled and endangered by an inveterate pulmonary complaint, he resigned his military appointment. Impartial historians will do justice to his character, in detailing the judicious plans he suggested, and the system he pursued for defending the frontiers, and his personal hazards, bravery and achievements, previously to the period of his resignation. Nor are

authentic documents wanting to shew the tender regret which the Virginia line expressed at parting with their Commander, and the affectionate regard which He entertained for them.

From this period till the year 1775, he cultivated the arts of peace. Soon after he resigned his commission in 1759, his health having been gradually re-established, he married the present Mrs. WASHINGTON, then Mrs. MARTHA CUSTIS,\* an amiable and beautiful young widow, “with whom he had a fortune of twenty thousand pounds sterling in her own right, besides her dower in one of the principal estates in Virginia,”† and settled as a Planter and Farmer at his favorite, delightful seat, the far-famed Mount Vernon.

GENERAL WASHINGTON was the largest landholder, probably, in the United States. Besides the large estates which came into his possession by his marriage, and by the death of Mrs. WASH-

\* GENERAL and Mrs. WASHINGTON were born in the same year.

† Bell's Letter.

INGTON's only daughter (amounting in the whole to thirty thousand pounds sterling) he owned large tracts of excellent land in different parts of the state, which, in early life, while he was Surveyor, he had taken up for himself, or purchased of officers who had land allotted them for their services. He also made large additions to his estate at Mount Vernon; which, in 1787, consisted of about nine thousand acres, under his own cultivation. His income from his estates was reckoned, in 1776, to amount at least to *four thousand pounds sterling a year*; and it was then supposed they would have sold for more than *one hundred and sixty thousand pounds\** of the same money, equal to upwards of 666,000 dollars. There can be no doubt, that under his superintendence and admirable management, his property has since much increased.

GENERAL WASHINGTON was not less distinguished as a *Farmer*, than as a *Warrior* and a *Statesman*. He undertook every thing on a great scale, proportioned to his great and comprehen-

\* *Bell's Letter.*

five mind; and his exact and exemplary method in transacting all his business, enabled him to accomplish more, and in a more perfect and advantageous manner, than perhaps any other man of the age. He has raised seven thousand bushels of wheat, and ten thousand of Indian corn in one year, on his estate at Mount Vernon. In a succeeding year he raised two hundred lambs, sowed twenty-seven bushels of flax-seed, and planted more than seven hundred bushels of potatoes. At the same time he had manufactured under his eye, by his domestics, linen and woolen cloth sufficient for his household, which consisted of nearly a thousand souls.—His land, designed for cultivation, he had enclosed in lots of equal dimensions, and crops assigned to each for many years. On Saturday in the afternoon, every week, he was accustomed to receive reports from all his overseers (and these reports, I have been informed, were received and attended to constantly, during the periods of his command of our armies, and his presidency of the United States) which reports were correctly registered in books kept for the purpose; so that, at the end

of the year, he was able accurately to ascertain the quantity of labor bestowed on each of the several lots, and the amount of the produce. Order and economy were established in all the departments within and without doors.

Agriculture was his favorite employment, and he pursued it in a manner worthy of himself. One great object which he ever kept in view, was to introduce or augment the culture of those articles which he conceived would be the most beneficial in their consequences to his country. Upon this principle, he early gave up planting tobacco, and went altogether into the farming business. To acquire and communicate practical knowledge, he corresponded with the celebrated Mr. Arthur Young, of England, and with many agricultural gentlemen in this country. As improvement was known to be his object, he was in the habit of receiving rare seeds, and results of new projects from every quarter. He likewise made copious notes, relative to his own experiments, the state of the seasons, the nature of soils, of which he was an excellent judge, and



the effects of different kinds of manure, and such other topics, as tended to the improvement of agriculture.

While he was thus usefully occupied as a Farmer, and giving to all around him, and to posterity, a noble example of industry, economy, and good management, he was, at the same time, assiduous in serving the state. From the time he left the army, in 1759, until the year 1774, he was constantly a member of assembly; he was also a magistrate of the county in which he lived, and a judge of the court. He was elected a delegate to the first congress in 1774, and to that which assembled in the year following.

It was while he was a member of this assembly of the wisest men in America, that he was, on the 15th of June, 1775, by their unanimous vote, appointed Commander in Chief of all the forces raised, or to be raised for the defence of the then colonies. He accepted his appointment; with what diffidence and disinterestedness, his reply to the president of Congress, when his appointment was announced to him, witnesses

“It was a fortunate circumstance, attending his election, that it was accompanied with no competition, and followed by no envy. That same general impulse on the public mind, which led the colonists to agree in many other particulars pointed to him as the most proper person for presiding over the military arrangements of America. Not only Congress, but the inhabitants in the east and west, in the north and the south, as well before as at the time of embodying a continental army, were in a great degree unanimous in his favor.”\* “The very high estimation he stood in for integrity and honor, his engaging in the cause of his country from sentiment and a conviction of her wrongs; his moderation in politics, his extensive property, and his approved abilities as a military commander, were motives which obliged the choice of America to fall upon him.”†

We have now arrived at a period in the life of this great man, since which, the events of it have been more conspicuous and more generally

\* *RAMSAY'S Hist. Rev. vol. i. p. 192.*

† *Bell's Letter.*

interesting; and it is the less necessary to particularize them in this place, because they have been often detailed, and are familiar to almost every person. I will only observe, that General WASHINGTON arrived at the camp in Cambridge, and took the supreme command of the American army, July 2, 1776. "He was received with that heart-felt exultation, which superior merit alone can inspire, after having, in his progress through the states, been honored with every mark of affection and esteem which they conceived were due to the man, whom the whole continent looked up to for safety and freedom."\*

It is hoped posterity will be taught, in what manner he transformed an undisciplined body of peasantry into a regular army of soldiers. Commentaries on his campaigns would undoubtedly be highly interesting and instructive to future generations. The conduct of the first campaign, in compelling the British troops to abandon Boston by a bloodless victory, will merit a minute narration. But a volume would scarcely

\* *Bell's Letter.*

contain the mortifications he experienced, and the hazards to which he was exposed in 1776 and 1777, in contending against the prowess of Britain, with an inadequate force. His good destiny and consummate prudence, prevented want of success from producing want of confidence on the part of the public; for want of success is apt to lead to the adoption of pernicious counsels through the versatility of the people, or the ambition of demagogues.—Shortly after this period, sprang up the only cabal that ever existed during his public life, to rob him of his reputation and command. It proved as impotent in effect, as it was audacious in design. In the three succeeding years the germ of discipline unfolded; and the resources of America having been called into co-operation with the land and naval forces of France, produced the glorious conclusion of the campaign in 1781. From this time the gloom began to disappear from our political horizon, and the affairs of the union proceeded in a meliorating train, until a peace was most ably negotiated by our ambassadors in Europe in 1783.

No person, who had not the advantage of

being present when General *WASHINGTON* received the intelligence of peace, and who did not accompany him to his domestic retirement, can describe the relief which that joyful event brought to his laboring mind, or the supreme satisfaction with which he withdrew to private life. From his triumphal entry into New-York, upon the evacuation of that city by the British army, to his arrival at Mount Vernon, after the resignation of his commission to Congress, festive crowds impeded his passage through all the populous towns, the devotion of a whole people pursued him with prayers to Heaven for blessings on his head, while their gratitude sought the most expressive language of manifesting itself to him as their common father and benefactor. When he became a private citizen, he had the unusual felicity to find that his native state was among the most zealous to do justice to his merits; and that stronger demonstrations of affectionate esteem (if possible) were given by the citizens of his neighborhood, than by any other description of men on the continent. But he constantly declined accepting any compensation for his ser-

vices or provision for the augmented expenses incurred in consequence of his public employment, although proposals were made him in the most delicate manner, particularly by the states of Virginia and Pennsylvania.

The virtuous simplicity which distinguished the private life of General WASHINGTON, though less known than the dazzling splendor of his military achievements, is not less edifying in example, or worthy the attention of his countrymen. The conspicuous character he acted on the theatre of human affairs, the uniform dignity with which he sustained his part amidst difficulties of the most discouraging nature, and the glory of having arrived through them at the hour of triumph, made many official and literary persons, on both sides of the ocean, ambitious of a correspondence with him. These correspondencies unavoidably engrossed a great portion of his time; and the communications contained in them, combined with the numerous periodical publications and newspapers which he perused, rendered him, as it were, the *focus of political in-*

*telligence for the new world.*—Nor were his conversations with well informed men less conducive to bring him acquainted with the various events which happened in different countries of the globe. Every foreigner of distinction, who travelled in America, made it a point to visit him. Members of Congress and other dignified personages, did not pass his house without calling to pay him their respects. As another source of information it may be mentioned, that many literary productions were sent to him annually by their authors in Europe; and that there was scarcely one work written in America on any art, science, or subject, which did not seek his protection, or which was not offered to him as a token of gratitude. Mechanical inventions were frequently submitted to him for his approbation, and natural curiosities presented for his investigation. But the multiplicity of epistolary applications, often on the remains of some business which happened when he was commander in chief; sometimes on subjects foreign to his situation, frivolous in their nature, and intended merely to gratify the vanity of the writers by

drawing answers from him, was truly distressing and almost incredible. His benignity in answering, perhaps, increased the number. Had he not husbanded every moment to the best advantage, it would not have been in his power to have noticed the vast variety of subjects that claimed his attention.

In this manner he spent his time, from the peace of 1783, till he was elected a member of the convention who framed, in Philadelphia, in the summer of 1787, the present Constitution of the United States. Of this convention of sages, he was chosen President, and with his name he has sanctioned the Constitution of their and his country's choice.

When this Constitution, adopted by the nation, was to be organized and put into operation, by an election of the proper officers, the United States, "steadfast in their preference, with one voice summoned their beloved WASHINGTON, unpractised as he was, in the duties of civil administration," to the chair of government.



He heard their voice "with veneration and love," and with that self diffidence and modesty, which ever accompany pre-eminent merit, he obeyed their summons. On the 30th of April, 1789, he was inaugurated President of the United States, in the city of New-York, amidst the acclamations of thousands of spectators. "It seemed, by the number of witnesses," says one, who beheld the interesting scene, "to be a solemn appeal to heaven and earth at once. Upon the subject of this great and good man, I may perhaps be an enthusiast: but I confess, I was under an awful and religious persuasion, that the gracious Ruler of the Universe was looking down at that moment, with peculiar complacency, on an act, which, to a part of his creatures, was so very important. Under this impression, when the chancellor pronounced in a very feeling manner, 'Long live GEORGE WASHINGTON,' my sensibility was wound up to such a pitch, that I could do no more than wave my hat with the rest, without the power of joining in the repeated acclamations which rent the air."

In the autumn after his induction into office, he visited the eastern states; with how much delight and advantage to the people, and satisfaction to his own mind, let the volume of their addresses and his answers testify.

With what dignity, wisdom, firmness, integrity, and high general approbation, he performed the duties of his most arduous, elevated, and responsible office, during his eight years administration, his eulogists have eloquently announced, and historians will record with pride and admiration. “Commencing his administration, what heart is not charmed with the recollection of the pure and wise principles announced by himself, as the basis of his political life. He best understood the indissoluble union between virtue and happiness, between duty and advantage, between the genuine maxims of an honest and magnanimous policy, and the solid rewards of public prosperity and individual felicity: watching with an equal and comprehensive eye over this great assemblage of communities and interests, he laid the foundation of our national

policy, in the unerring and immutable principles of morality, based on religion, exemplifying the pre-eminence of free government, by all the attributes which win the affections of its citizens, or command the respect of the world.”\*

During his administration as our supreme executive magistrate, “his talents and his virtues increased with his cares. His soul seemed not to bear the limits of office a moment after the obligations of duty and patriotism withdrew their restraints from his universal love. When the misguided savages of the wilderness, after feeling his chastisement, had sued for peace; he seemed to labor for their happiness as the common representative of mankind. Insurrection was so struck at his countenance, that it fled from the shock of his arms. Intrigue attempted to entangle him in her poisonous web, but he burst it with gigantic strength, and crushed her labours. Anarchy looked out from her cavern, and was dashed into oblivion, as we trust, forever. The nations of Europe saw the wisdom of

\* *Major Gen. Henry Lee's Funeral Oration.*

our laws, the vigour of our measures, the justice of our policy, the firmness of our government, and acquiesced in the neutrality of our station.”\*

Twice elected by the unanimous voice of his country to the Presidential chair, when the period for a third election arrived, in September 1796, when the state of his country was such that he considered it no longer necessary for him to sacrifice his inclination to his duty, he announced to his fellow-citizens, in an Address which will be immortal as his name, his determination to retire, and requesting them not to consider him as a candidate for their future suffrages; thus preventing “the anxious wishes of an affectionate people, from adding a third unanimous testimonial of their unabated confidence in the man so long enthroned in their hearts.” Having spent *forty-five* years of his life in the service of his country, he consoled himself with the hope that he was now quitting forever “the boundless field of public action, incessant trouble and high responsibility,” in which he had so long acted a

\* *Judge Minor's Eulogy*, p. 15.

principal part: but this fond hope was not realized. He had not yet arrived at the pinnacle of human greatness. One ascending step yet remained untaken. From March 1797 to July 1798, he lived in peace at his beloved retreat, discharging the duties of a private citizen with a condescension and greatness of mind peculiar to himself. At the latter period, "when every thing we hold dear and sacred was seriously threatened,"\* the voice of his countrymen was raised to him, as the Instrument, under Providence, for their protection; he heard it and instantly obeyed; and thus advanced the last ascending step in the career of earthly glory. On this high and commanding ground he stood, venerable in services as in years, the cement and the bulwark of our nation, till the 14th of December 1799, when he was summoned above to join that noble company of the "wise, who shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, and as the stars forever and ever."

His last sickness was short and painful. On

\* *GENERAL WASHINGTON's Letter of Acceptance.*

Thursday the 12th, he was abroad on one of his plantations.—The day was rainy and he took cold; which, on Friday, produced a violent inflammation in the throat. The following night his disease became very alarming, and he was urged to send to Alexandria for his physician. His humanity for his servants prevented it till the next morning. At 11 o'clock on Saturday his physician arrived. It was too late. The hand of death was already upon him. Though his distress was extreme, he was calm and resigned. "He informed his attendants that his affairs were in good order; that he had made his will, and that his public business was but two days behind hand." A very short time before he died, he said to his physician, "*Doctor, what is the clock? How long am I to remain in this situation?*" The Doctor replied, "*Not long, sir.*" He then rejoined with the firmest countenance, "*I have no fear, Doctor, to die.*" His breathing soon grew shorter; and presently after he expired without a sigh or a groan.

“WHEN keenest anguish rack’d his mighty mind,  
And the fond heart the joys of life resign’d,  
No guilt nor terror stretch’d its hard controul,  
No doubt obscur’d the sunshine of the soul.  
Prepar’d for death, his calm and steady eye,  
Look’d fearless upward to a peaceful sky;  
While wondering angels point the airy road,  
Which leads the Christian to the Throne of God.”

GENERAL WASHINGTON in his person was tall, upright, and well made; in his manners easy and unaffected. His eyes were of a bluish cast, not prominent, indicative of deep thoughtfulness, and when in action, on great occasions, remarkably lively. His features strong, manly, and commanding; his temper reserved and serious; his countenance grave, composed, and sensible. There was in his whole appearance an unusual dignity and gracefulness which at once secured for him profound respect, and cordial esteem. He seemed born to command his fellow men. In his official capacity he received applicants for favors, and answered their requests with so much ease, condescension and kindness, as that each retired, believing himself a favorite of his chief. He had an excellent and well cul-

tivated understanding; a correct, discerning, and comprehensive mind; a memory remarkably retentive; energetic passions under perfect controul; a judgment sober, deliberate, and sound. He was a man of the strictest honor and honesty, fair and honorable in his dealings; and punctual to his engagements. His disposition was mild, kind, and generous. Candour, sincerity, moderation, and simplicity, were, in common, prominent features in his character; but when an occasion called, he was capable of displaying the most determined bravery, firmness, and independence. He was an affectionate husband, a faithful friend, a humane master, and a father to the poor. He lived in the unvarying habits of regularity, temperance, and industry. He steadily rose at the dawn of day, and retired to rest usually at 9 o'clock in the evening. The intermediate hours all had their proper business assigned them. In his allotments for the revolving hours, religion was not forgotten. Feeling, what he so often publicly acknowledged, his entire dependence on God, he daily, at stated seasons, retired to his closet, to worship, at his footstool, and to ask his



divine blessing. He was remarkable for his strict observance of the sabbath, and exemplary in his attendance on public worship.

Of his faith in the truth and excellence of the holy scriptures, he gave evidence, not only by his excellent and most exemplary life, but in his writings; especially when he ascribes the meliorated condition of mankind, and the increased blessing of society, "*above all, to the pure and benign light of revelation;*" and when he offers to God, his earnest prayer "that he would most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind, which were the characteristics of the *divine author of our blessed religion;* without an humble imitation of whose example, in these things, we can never hope to be a happy nation."\* In an address to him, immediately after he commenced his Presidency over the United States, from a venerable and respectable body of

\* See the Conclusion of his Circular Letter.

men, who were in the best situation to know his religious character, and who, no doubt, expressed what they knew, is the following testimony to his faith in christianity. "But we derive a presage," say they, "even more flattering, from the piety of your character. Public virtue is the most certain mean of public felicity; and religion is the surest basis of virtue. We therefore esteem it a peculiar happiness to behold in our chief magistrate, a steady, uniform, avowed friend of the christian religion; who has commenced his administration in rational and exalted sentiments of piety, and who, in his private conduct, adorns the doctrines of the gospel of Christ." Grounded on these pure and excellent doctrines, to which his life was so conformable; copying, as he did, with such exemplary strictness and uniformity, the precepts of Christ, we have strong consolation and joy in believing, that ere this, he has heard from his God and Saviour, this enrapturing sentence, *Well done good and faithful servant, enter into the Joy of your Lord.*

What a blessing to the world, what an honor

to human nature, is a character thus “throughout sublime?” What a bright exemplar for kings, princes, for rulers of every name, for warriors, for farmers, for christians, for mankind? Thanks be to God for so rich a gift; praise to his name for bestowing it on our nation, and thus distinguishing it above all others on the globe, and let all the *people of COLUMBIA, with one voice, say* AMEN.

*GENERAL WASHINGTON'S*

APPOINTMENT TO THE COMMAND OF THE  
AMERICAN ARMY.

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*IN CONGRESS,* }  
*Thursday, June 15, 1775.* }

**R**ESOLVED, That a GENERAL be appointed to command all the continental forces, raised, or to be raised, for the defence of American liberty.

That five hundred dollars per month be allowed for the pay and expences of the General.

The Congress then proceeded to the choice of a General, by ballot, and GEORGE WASHINGTON, ESQ. was unanimously elected.

*Friday, June 16, 1775.*

The President informed Colonel WASHINGTON, that the Congress had, yesterday, unani-

moufly made choice of him to be General and commander in chief of the American forces, and requested he would accept of that employment ; to which Colonel WASHINGTON, standing in his place, as a member of the house, answered :

“ *Mr. President,*

“ Though I am truly sensible of the high honor done me in this appointment, yet I feel great distress, from a consciousness that my abilities and military experience may not be equal to the extensive and important trust : however, as the Congress desire it, I will enter upon the momentous duty, and exert every power I possess, in their service, for the support of the glorious cause. I beg they will accept my most cordial thanks for this distinguished testimony of their approbation.

“ But, lest some event should happen unfavorable to my reputation, I beg it may be remembered by every gentleman in the room, that I, this day, declare with the utmost sincerity, I do not think myself equal to the command I am honored with.

“With respect to pay, sir, I must beg leave to assure Congress, that as no pecuniary consideration could have tempted me to accept this arduous employment, at the expence of my domestic ease and happiness, I do not wish to make any profit from it. I will keep an exact account of my expences. Those I doubt not they will discharge, and that is all I desire.”

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ON THE CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES, GEN.  
WASHINGTON ISSUED THE FOLLOWING  
ORDERS:

*Head-Quarters, Newburgh, April 18, 1783.*

THE commander in chief orders the cessation of hostilities between the United States of America and the king of Great Britain, to be publicly proclaimed to-morrow at 12 o'clock, at the new building; and that the proclamation which will be communicated herewith, be read to-morrow evening, at the head of every regiment and corps of the army; after which, the chaplains, with the several brigades, will render thanks to Almighty God for all his mercies, particularly for his over-ruling the wrath of man to his own glory, and causing the rage of war to cease amongst the nations.

Although the proclamation before alluded to, extends only to the prohibition of hostilities, and not to the annunciation of a general peace, yet it must afford the most rational and sincere

fatisfaction to every benevolent mind, as it puts a period to a long and doubtful contest—stop the effusion of human blood—opens the prospect to a more splendid scene—and, like another morning star, promises the approach of a brighter day than has hitherto illuminated this western hemisphere! On such a happy day—a day which is the harbinger of peace—a day which completes the eighth year of the war, it would be ingratitude not to rejoice: it would be infensibility not to participate in the general felicity.

The commander in chief, far from endeavoring to stifle the feelings of joy in his own bosom, offers his most cordial congratulations on the occasion, to all the officers of every denomination—to all the troops of the United States in general, and in particular to those gallant and persevering men, who had resolved to defend the rights of their invaded country so long as the war should continue; for these are men who ought to be considered as the pride and boast of the American army, and who, crowned with well-earned laurels, may soon withdraw from the field of glory to the more tranquil walks of civil life.



While the General recollects the almost infinite variety of scenes through which we have passed with a mixture of pleasure, astonishment and gratitude—while he contemplates the prospects before us with rapture—he cannot help wishing that all the brave men, of whatever condition they may be, who have shared in the toils and dangers of effecting this glorious revolution, of rescuing millions from the hands of oppression, and of laying the foundation of a great empire, might be impressed with a proper idea of the dignified part they have been called to act (under the smiles of providence) on the stage of human affairs; for happy, thrice happy, shall they be pronounced hereafter, who have contributed any thing, who have performed the meanest office in erecting this stupendous *fabric of Freedom and Empire*, on the broad basis of independency; who have assisted in protecting the rights of human nature, and establishing an asylum for the poor and oppressed of all nations and religions.

The glorious task for which we first flew to

arms, being thus accomplished—the liberties of our country being fully acknowledged and firmly secured, by the smiles of Heaven, on the purity of our cause, and the honest exertion of a feeble people, determined to be free, against a powerful nation disposed to oppress them; and the character of those who have persevered through every extremity of hardship, suffering, and danger, being immortalized by the illustrious appellation of the *Patriot Army*, nothing now remains but for the actors of this mighty scene to preserve a perfect, unvarying consistency of character through the very last act; to close the drama with applause; and to retire from the military theatre with the same approbation of angels and men, which have crowned all their former virtuous actions.

For this purpose, no disorder or licentiousness must be tolerated; every considerate and well-disposed soldier must remember, it will be absolutely necessary to wait with patience, until peace shall be declared, or Congress shall be enabled to take proper measures for the security

of the public stores, &c. As soon as these arrangements shall be made, the General is confident there will be no delay in discharging, with every mark of distinction and honor, all the men enlisted for the war, who will then have faithfully performed their engagements with the public. The General has already interested himself in their behalf; and he thinks he need not repeat the assurances of his disposition to be useful to them on the present, and every other proper occasion. In the mean time he is determined that no military neglects or excesses shall go unpunished, while he retains the command of the army.

The Adjutant-General will have such working parties detached to assist in making the preparations for a general rejoicing, as the chief engineer, with the army, shall call for; and the quarter-master-general will also furnish such materials as he may want. The quarter-master-general will, without delay, procure such a number of discharges to be printed as will be sufficient for all the men enlisted for the war; he will please to apply to head-quarters for the form.

An extra ration of liquor to be issued to every man to-morrow, to drink PERPETUAL PEACE, INDEPENDENCE, AND HAPPINESS, TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

*A CIRCULAR LETTER,*

FROM HIS EXCELLENCY *GEORGE WASHINGTON*, COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, TO THE GOVERNORS OF THE SEVERAL STATES.

*Head-Quarters, Newburgh, June 18, 1783.*

SIR,

THE great object for which I had the honor to hold an appointment in the service of my country, being accomplished, I am now preparing to resign it into the hands of Congress, and return to that domestic retirement, which, it is well known, I left with the greatest reluctance; a retirement for which I have never ceased to sigh through a long and painful absence, in which (remote from the noise and trouble of the world) I meditate to pass the remainder of life in a state of undisturbed repose; but, before I carry this resolution into effect, think it a duty incumbent on me to make this my last official communication, to congratulate you on the glorious events which heaven has been pleased to

produce in our favor, to offer my sentiments respecting some important subjects, which appear to me to be intimately connected with the tranquillity of the United States, to take my leave of your Excellency as a public character, and to give my final blessing to that country in whose service I have spent the prime of my life; for whose sake I have consumed so many anxious days and watchful nights; and whose happiness being extremely dear to me, will always constitute no inconsiderable part of my own.

Impressed with the liveliest sensibility on this pleasing occasion, I will claim the indulgence of dilating the more copiously on the subject of our mutual felicitation. When we consider the magnitude of the price we contended for, the doubtful nature of the contest, and the favorable manner in which it has terminated; we shall find the greatest possible reason for gratitude and rejoicing: this is a theme that will afford infinite delight to every benevolent and liberal mind, whether the event in contemplation be considered as a source of present enjoy-

ment, or the parent of future happiness; and we shall have equal occasion to felicitate ourselves on the lot which providence has assigned us, whether we view it in a natural, a political, or moral point of view.

The citizens of America, placed in the most enviable condition, as the sole lords and proprietors of a vast tract of continent, comprehending all the various soils and climates of the world, and abounding with all the necessities and conveniences of life, are now, by the late satisfactory pacification, acknowledged to be possessed of absolute freedom and independency; they are, from this period to be considered as the actors on a most conspicuous theatre, which seems to be peculiarly designed by providence for the display of human greatness and felicity: here they are not only surrounded with every thing that can contribute to the completion of private and domestic enjoyment, but heaven has crowned all its other blessings, by giving a surer opportunity for political happiness than any other nation has ever been favored with. Nothing can illustrate

these observations more forcibly than the recollection of the happy conjecture of times and circumstances, under which our republic assumed its rank among the nations. The foundation of our empire was not laid in a gloomy age of ignorance and superstition, but at an epoch when the rights of mankind were better understood, and more clearly defined than at any former period: researches of the human mind after social happiness have been carried to a great extent: the treasures of knowledge acquired by the labours of philosophers, sages, and legislators, through a long succession of years, are laid open for us, and their collected wisdom may be happily applied in the establishment of our forms of government: the free cultivation of letters, the unbounded extension of commerce, the progressive refinement of manners, the growing liberality of sentiment, and, above all, the pure and benign light of revelation, have had a meliorating influence on mankind, and increased the blessings of society. At this auspicious period the United States came into existence as a nation, and if their citizens should not be com-



pletely free and happy, the fault will be entirely their own.

Such is our situation, and such are our prospects; but notwithstanding the cup of blessing is thus reached out to us—notwithstanding happiness is ours, if we have a disposition to seize the occasion, and make it our own; yet it appears to me, there is an option still left to the United States of America, whether they will be respectable and prosperous, or contemptible and miserable as a nation. This is the time of their political probation; this is the moment, when the eyes of the whole world are turned upon them; this is the time to establish or ruin their national character forever; this is the favorable moment to give such a tone to the federal government as will enable it to answer the ends of its institution; or this may be the ill-fated moment for relaxing the powers of the union, annihilating the cement of the confederation, and exposing us to become the sport of European politics, which may play one state against another, to prevent growing importance, and to serve their

own interested purposes. For, according to the system of policy the states shall adopt at this moment, they will stand or fall; and, by their confirmation or lapse, it is yet to be decided, whether the revolution must ultimately be considered as a blessing or a curse; a blessing or a curse, not to the present age alone, for with our fate will the destiny of unborn millions be involved.

With this conviction of the importance of the present crisis, silence in me would be a crime. I will therefore speak to your Excellency the language of freedom and sincerity without disguise. I am aware, however, those who differ from me in political sentiments may perhaps remark, I am stepping out of the proper line of my duty; and they may possibly ascribe to arrogance or ostentation, what I know is alone the result of the purest intention; but the rectitude of my own heart, which disdains such unworthy motives—the part I have hitherto acted in life—the determination I have formed of not taking any share in public business hereafter—the ardent desire I feel and shall continue to manifest, of quietly

enjoying in private life, after all the toils of war, the benefits of a wise and liberal government—will, I flatter myself, sooner or later, convince my countrymen, that I should have no sinister views in delivering, with so little reserve, the opinions contained in this address.

There are four things which I humbly conceive are essential to the well-being, I may even venture to say, to the existence of the United States, as an independent power.

1st. An indissoluble union of the states under one federal head.

2dly. A sacred regard to public justice.

3dly. The adoption of a proper peace establishment. And,

4thly. The prevalence of that pacific and friendly disposition among the people of the United States, which will induce them to forget their local prejudices and policies, to make those mutual concessions which are requisite to the

general prosperity, and, in some instance, to sacrifice their individual advantages to the interest of the community.

There are pillars on which the glorious fabric of our independency and national character must be supported. Liberty is the basis, and whoever would dare to sap the foundation, or overturn the structure, under whatever specious pretext he may attempt it, will merit the bitterest execration and the severest punishment which can be inflicted by his injured country.

On the three first articles I will make a few observations, leaving the last to the good sense and serious consideration of those immediately concerned.

Under the first head, although it may not be necessary or proper for me in this place to enter into a particular disquisition of the principles of the union, and to take up the great question which has been frequently agitated, whether it be expedient and requisite for the states to delegate a large proportion of power

to Congress, or not; yet it will be a part of my duty, and that of every true patriot, to assert, without reserve, and to insist upon the following positions.—That unless the states will suffer Congress to exercise those prerogatives they are undoubtedly invested with by the constitution, every thing must very rapidly tend to anarchy and confusion. That it is indispensable to the happiness of the individual states, that there should be lodged, somewhere, a supreme power, to regulate and govern the general concerns of the confederated republic, without which the union cannot be of long duration. That there must be a faithful and pointed compliance on the part of every state with the late proposals and demands of Congress, or the most fatal consequences will ensue. That whatever measures have a tendency to dissolve the union, or contribute to violate or lessen the sovereign authority, ought to be considered as hostile to the liberty and independency of America, and the authors of them treated accordingly. And lastly, that unless we can be enabled by the concurrence of the states, to participate of the fruits of the revolu-

tion, and enjoy the essential benefits of civil society, under a form of government so free and uncorrupted, so happily guarded against the danger of oppression, as has been devised and adopted by the articles of confederation, it will be a subject of regret, that so much blood and treasure have been lavished for no purpose; that so many sufferings have been encountered without a compensation, and that so many sacrifices have been made in vain. Many other considerations might here be adduced to prove, that without an entire conformity to the spirit of the union, we cannot exist as an independent power. It will be sufficient for my purpose to mention but one or two, which seem to me of the greatest importance. It is only in our united character, as an empire, that our independence is acknowledged, that our power can be regarded, or our credit supported among foreign nations. The treaties of the European powers with the United States of America, will have no validity on the dissolution of the union. We shall be left nearly in a state of nature; or we may find, by our own unhappy experience, that there is a natural and

necessary progrefsion from the extreme of anarchy to the extreme of tyranny; and that arbitrary power is most easily established on the ruins of liberty abused to licentiousness.

As to the second article, which respects the performance of public justice, Congress have, in their late Address to the United States, almost exhausted the subject; they have explained their ideas so fully, and have enforced the obligations the states are under to render complete justice to all the public creditors, with so much dignity and energy, that in my opinion, no real friend to the honor and independency of America can hesitate a single moment respecting the propriety of complying with the just and honorable measures proposed. If their arguments do not produce conviction, I know of nothing that will have greater influence, especially when we reflect that the system referred to, being the result of the collected wisdom of the continent, must be esteemed, if not perfect, certainly the least objectionable of any that could be devised; and that, if it should not be carried into immediate

execution, a national bankruptcy, with all its deplorable consequences, will take place, before any different plan can possibly be proposed or adopted; so pressing are the present circumstances, and such is the alternative now offered to the states.

The ability of the country to discharge the debts which have been incurred in its defence, is not to be doubted. An inclination, I flatter myself, will not be wanting; the path of our duty is plain before us; honesty will be found, on every experiment, to be the best and only true policy. Let us then, as a nation, be just; let us fulfill the public contracts which Congress had undoubtedly a right to make for the purpose of carrying on the war, with the same good faith we suppose ourselves bound to perform our private engagements. In the mean time let an attention to the cheerful performance of their proper business, as individuals, and as members of society, be earnestly inculcated on the citizens of America; then will they strengthen the bands of government, and be happy under its protection. Every



one will reap the fruit of his labors ; every one will enjoy his own acquisitions, without molestation and without danger.

In this state of absolute freedom and perfect security, who will grudge to yield a very little of his property to support the common interests of society, and ensure the protection of government ? Who does not remember the frequent declarations at the commencement of the war, that we should be completely satisfied, if at the expense of one half, we could defend the remainder of our possessions ? Where is the man to be found, who wishes to remain indebted for the defence of his own person and property to the exertions, the bravery, and the blood of others, without making one generous effort to pay the debt of honor and of gratitude ? In what part of the continent shall we find any man, or body of men, who would not blush to stand up, and propose measures purposely calculated to rob the foldier of his stipend, and the public creditor of his due ? And were it possible that such a flagrant instance of injustice could ever happen,

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would it not excite the general indignation, and tend to bring down upon the authors of such measures, the aggravated vengeance of heaven? If, after all, a spirit of disunion, or a temper of obstinacy and perverseness should manifest itself in any of the states; if such an ungracious disposition should attempt to frustrate all the happy effects that might be expected to flow from the union; if there should be a refusal to comply with requisitions for funds to discharge the annual interest of the public debts, and if that refusal should revive all those jealousies, and produce all those evils which are now happily removed—Congress who have in all their transactions shewn a great degree of magnanimity and justice, will stand justified in the sight of God and man! And that state alone, which puts itself in opposition to aggregate wisdom of the continent, and follows such mistaken and pernicious councils, will be responsible for all the consequences.

For my own part, conscious of having acted, while a servant of the public, in the manner I

conceived best suited to promote the real interests of my country; having, in consequence of my fixed belief, in some measure, pledged myself to the army, that their country would finally do them complete and ample justice, and not willing to conceal any instance of my official conduct from the eyes of the world, I have thought proper to transmit to your Excellency the inclosed collection of papers relative to the half-pay and commutation granted by Congress to the officers of the army: from these communications, my decided sentiment will be clearly comprehended, together with the conclusive reasons, which induced me at an early period, to recommend the adoption of this measure in the most earnest and serious manner. As the proceedings of Congress, the army, and myself, are open to all, and contain, in my opinion, sufficient information to remove the prejudice and errors which may have been entertained by any, I think it unnecessary to say any thing more, than just to observe, that the resolutions of Congress, now alluded to, are as undoubtedly and absolutely

binding upon the United States as the most solemn acts of confederation or legislation.

As to the idea, which I am informed, has in some instances prevailed, that the half-pay and commutation are to be regarded merely in the odious light of a pension, it ought to be exploded forever: that provision should be viewed, as it really was, a reasonable compensation offered by Congress, at a time when they had nothing else to give to officers of the army, for services then to be performed: it was the only means to prevent a total dereliction of the service; it was a part of their hire. I may be allowed to say, it was the price of their blood, and of your independency; it is therefore more than a common debt, it is a debt of honor; it can never be considered as a pension or gratuity, nor cancelled until it is fairly discharged.

With regard to the distinction between officers and soldiers, it is sufficient that the uniform experience of every nation of the world, combined with our own, proves the utility and

propriety of the discrimination. Rewards, in proportion to the aid the public draws from them, are unquestionably due to all its servants. In some lines, the foldiers have perhaps generally had as ample compensation for their services, by the large bounties which have been paid them, as their officers will receive in the proposed commutation; in others, if besides the donation of land, the payment of arrearages of clothing and wages (in which articles all the component parts of the army must be put upon the same footing) we take into the estimate, the bounties many of the foldiers have received, and the gratuity of one year's full pay, which is promised to all, possibly their situation (every circumstance being duly considered) will not be deemed less eligible than that of the officers. Should a farther reward, however, be judged equitable, I will venture to assert, no man will enjoy greater satisfaction than myself, in an exemption from taxes for a limited time (which has been petitioned for in some instances) or any other adequate immunity or compensation granted to the brave defenders of their country's cause: but neither

the adoption or rejection of this proposition will, in any manner affect, much less militate against the act of Congress, by which they have offered five years full pay, in lieu of the half-pay for life, which had been before promised to the officers of the army.

Before I conclude the subject on public justice, I cannot omit to mention the obligations this country is under to that meritorious class of veterans, the non-commissioned officers and privates, who have been discharged for inability, in consequence of the resolution of Congress, of the 23d of April, 1782, on an annual pension for life. Their peculiar sufferings, their singular merits and claims to that provision, need only to be known, to interest the feelings of humanity in their behalf. Nothing but a punctual payment of their annual allowance can rescue them from the most complicated misery; and nothing could be a more melancholy and distressing sight, than to behold those who have shed their blood, or lost their limbs in the service of their country, without a shelter, without a friend, and without

the means of obtaining any of the comforts or necessaries of life, compelled to beg their daily bread from door to door. Suffer me to recommend those of this description, belonging to your state, to the warmest patronage of your Excellency and your legislature.

It is necessary to say but a few words on the third topic which was proposed, and which regards particularly the defence of the republic. As there can be little doubt but Congress will recommend a proper peace establishment for the United States, in which a due attention will be paid to the importance of placing the militia of the union upon a regular and respectable footing; if this should be the case, I should beg leave to urge the great advantage of it in the strongest terms.

The militia of this country must be considered as the palladium of our security, and the first effectual resort in case of hostility: it is essential, therefore, that the same system should pervade the whole; that the formation and discipline of the militia of the continent should be absolutely uniform; and that the same species of

arms, accoutrements, and military apparatus, should be introduced in every part of the United States. No one, who has not learned it from experience, can conceive the difficulty, expense, and confusion which result from a contrary system, or the vague arrangements which have hitherto prevailed.

If, in treating of political points, a greater latitude than usual has been taken in the course of the Address, the importance of the crisis, and the magnitude of the objects in discussion, must be my apology; it is, however, neither my wish nor expectation, that the preceding observations should claim any regard, except so far as they shall appear to be dictated by a good intention; consonant to the immutable rules of justice; calculated to produce a liberal system of policy, and founded on whatever experience may have been acquired by a long and close attention to public business. Here I might speak with more confidence, from my actual observations; and if it would not swell this letter (already too prolix) beyond the bounds I had prescribed myself, I could demonstrate to every mind, open to con-



viction, that in less time, and with much less expense than has been incurred, the war might have been brought to the same happy conclusion, if the resources of the continent could have been properly called forth; that the distresses and disappointments which have very often occurred, have, in too many instances, resulted more from a want of energy in the continental government, than a deficiency of means in the particular states: that the inefficacy of the measures, arising from the want of an adequate authority in the supreme power, from a partial compliance with the requisitions of Congress in some of the states, and from a failure of punctuality in others, while they tended to damp the zeal of those who were more willing to exert themselves, served also to accumulate the expenses of the war, and to frustrate the best concerted plans; and that the discouragement occasioned by the complicated difficulties and embarrassments, in which our affairs were by this means involved, would have long ago produced the dissolution of any army, less patient, less virtuous, and less persevering than that which I have had the honor to command. But while I

mention those things, which are notorious facts, as the defects of our federal constitution, particularly in the prosecution of a war, I beg it may be understood, that as I have ever taken a pleasure in gratefully acknowledging the assistance and support I have derived from every class of citizens; so shall I always be happy to do justice to the unparalleled exertions of the individual states, on many interesting occasions.

I have thus freely disclosed what I wished to make known before I surrendered up my public trust to those who committed it to me: the task is now accomplished. I now bid adieu to your Excellency, as the chief magistrate of your state: at the same time I bid a last farewell to the cares of office, and all the employments of public life.

It remains, then, to be my final and only request, that your excellency will communicate these sentiments to your legislature at their next meeting; and that they may be considered as the legacy of one who has ardently wished, on all occasions, to be useful to his country, and who, even in the shade of retirement, will not fail to implore the divine benediction upon it.

I now make it my earnest prayer, that God would have you, and the state over which you preside, in his holy protection; that he would incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government; to entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another, for their fellow-citizens of the United States at large; and particularly for their brethren who have served in the field; and finally, that he would most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of the mind, which were the characteristics of the divine Author of our blessed religion; without an humble imitation of whose example, in these things, we can never hope to be a happy nation.

I have the honor to be,  
with much esteem and respect,  
sir,  
your Excellency's most obedient  
and most humble servant,  
G. WASHINGTON.

UNITED STATES,  
IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED.

*Princeton, August 26, 1783.*

*According to order, General WASHINGTON attended,  
and being introduced by two members, the President  
addressed him as follows:*

SIR,

CONGRESS feel particular pleasure in  
feeling your Excellency, and in congratulating  
you on the success of a war, in which you have  
acted so conspicuous a part.

It has been the singular happiness of the  
United States, that during a war so long, so dan-  
gerous, and so important, Providence has been  
graciously pleased to preserve the life of a Gene-  
ral, who has merited and possessed the uninter-  
rupted confidence and affection of his fellow-  
citizens. In other nations many have performed  
services, for which they have deserved and re-  
ceived the thanks of the public; but to you, sir,

peculiar praise is due. Your services have been essential in acquiring and establishing the freedom and independence of your country. They deserve the grateful acknowledgments of a free and independent nation. Those acknowledgments Congress have the satisfaction of expressing to your Excellency.

Hostilities have now ceased, but your country still needs your services. She wishes to avail herself of your talents in forming the arrangements which will be necessary for her in the time of peace. For this reason your attendance at Congress has been requested. A committee is appointed to confer with your Excellency, and to receive your assistance in preparing and digesting plans relative to those important objects.

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*T H E   A N S W E R .*

*MR. PRESIDENT,*

I AM too sensible of the honorable reception I have now experienced, not to be penetrated with the deepest feelings of gratitude.

Notwithstanding Congress appear to estimate the value of my life beyond any services I have been able to render the United States, yet I must be permitted to consider the wisdom and unanimity of our national councils, the firmness of our citizens and the patience and bravery of our troops, which have produced so happy a termination of the war, as the most conspicuous effect of the divine interposition, and the surest preface of our future happiness.

Highly gratified by the favorable sentiments which Congress are pleased to express of my past conduct, and amply rewarded by the confidence and affection of my fellow-citizens; I cannot hesitate to contribute my best endeavors towards the establishment of the national security in whatever manner the sovereign power may think proper to direct, until the ratification of the definitive treaty of peace, or the final evacuation of our country by the British forces; after either of which events, I shall ask permission to retire to the peaceful shade of private life.

Perhaps, sir, no occasion may offer more suitable than the present, to express my humble thanks to God and my grateful acknowledgments to my country, for the great and uniform support I have received in every vicissitude of fortune, and for the many distinguished honors which Congress have been pleased to confer upon me in the course of the war.



## FAREWELL ADDRESS

OF GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE ARMIES  
OF THE UNITED STATES.

*Rocky-Hill, near Princeton, Nov. 2, 1783.*

THE United States in Congress assembled, after giving the most honorable testimony to the merits of the federal armies, and presenting them with the thanks of their country, for their long, eminent and faithful service, having thought proper, by their proclamation bearing date the 18th of October last, to discharge such part of the troops as were engaged for the war, and to per-

mit the officers on furlough to retire from service, from and after to-morrow, which proclamation having being communicated in the public papers, for the information and government of all concerned, it only remains for the Commander in Chief to address himself once more, and that for the last time, to the armies of the United States (however widely dispersed individuals who compose them may be) and to bid them an affectionate—a long farewell.

But before the Commander in Chief takes his final leave of those he holds most dear, he wishes to indulge himself a few moments in calling to mind a slight view of the past:—he will then take the liberty of exploring, with his military friends, their future prospects; of advising the general line of conduct which in his opinion ought to be pursued; and he will conclude the Address, by expressing the obligations he feels himself under for the spirited and able assistance he has experienced from them, in the performance of an arduous office.

A contemplation of the complete attainment



(at a period earlier than could have been expected) of the object for which we contended, against so formidable a power, cannot but inspire us with astonishment and gratitude. The disadvantageous circumstances on our part, under which the war was undertaken, can never be forgotten. The signal interposition of Providence, in our feeble condition, were such as could scarcely escape the attention of the most unobserving; while the unparalleled perseverance of the armies of the United States, through almost every possible suffering and discouragement, for the space of eight long years, was little short of a standing miracle.

It is not the meaning, nor within the compass of this Address, to detail the hardships peculiarly incident to our service, or to describe the distresses which in several instances have resulted from the extremes of hunger and nakedness, combined with the rigours of an inclement season: nor is it necessary to dwell on the dark side of our past affairs.

Every American officer and soldier must now

console himself for any unpleasant circumstance which may have occurred, by a recollection of the uncommon scenes in which he has been called to act no inglorious part, and the astonishing events of which he has been a witness; events which have seldom if ever before, taken place on the stage of human action, nor can they probably ever happen again. For who has before seen a disciplined army formed at once from such raw materials? Who that was not a witness could imagine that the most violent local prejudices would cease so soon, and that men who came from the different parts of the continent, strongly disposed by the habits of education to despise and quarrel with each other, would instantly become but one patriotic band of brothers? Or who that was not on the spot, can trace the steps by which such a wonderful revolution has been effected, and such a glorious period put to all our warlike toils?

It is universally acknowledged, that the enlarged prospects of happiness, opened by the confirmation of our independence and fover-

eignty, almost exceed the power of description : and shall not the brave men who have contributed so essentially to these inestimable acquisitions, retiring victorious from the field of war to the field of agriculture, participate in all the blessings which have been obtained ? In such a republic, who will exclude them from the rights of citizens, and the fruits of their labours ? In such a country, so happily circumstanced, the pursuits of commerce, and the cultivation of the soil, will unfold to industry the certain road to competence.—To those hardy soldiers who are actuated by the spirit of adventure, the fisheries will afford ample and profitable employment : and the extensive, and fertile regions of the West, will yield a most happy asylum to those who, fond of domestic enjoyment, are seeking personal independence. Nor is it possible to conceive that any one of the United States will prefer a national bankruptcy, and the dissolution of the union, to a compliance with the requisitions of Congress, and the payment of its just debts ; so that the officers and soldiers may expect considerable assistance, in recommencing their civil

occupations, from the fums due to them from the public, which muſt and will moſt inevitably be paid.

In order to effect this defirable purpoſe, and remove the prejudices which may have taken poſſeſſion of the minds of any of the good people of the ſtates, it is earneſtly recommended to all the troops, that with ſtrong attachment to the union, they ſhould carry with them into civil ſociety, the moſt conciliating diſpoſitions, and that they ſhould prove themſelves not leſs virtuous and uſeful as citizens, than they have been victorious as ſoldiers. What though there ſhould be ſome envious individuals, who are unwilling to pay the debt the public has contracted, or to yield the tribute due to merit, yet, let ſuch unworthy treatment produce no unworthy invective, or any inſtance of intemperate conduct. Let it be remembered, that the unbiaſed voice of the free citizens of the United States, has promiſed the juſt reward, and given the merited applauſe. Let it be known and remembered, that the reputation of the federal armies is ef-

tablished beyond the reach of malevolence; and let a consciousness of their achievements and fame, still excite the men who composed them to honorable actions, under the persuasion that the private virtues of economy, prudence and industry, will not be less amiable in civil life, than the more splendid qualities of valour, perseverance, and enterprize were in the field. Every one may rest assured that much, very much of the future happiness of the officers and men, will depend upon the wise and manly conduct which shall be adopted by them, when they are mingled with the great body of the community. And although the General has so frequently given it as his opinion, in the most public and explicit manner, that unless the principles of the federal government were properly supported, and the powers of the union increased, the honor, dignity, and justice of the nation would be lost forever: yet he cannot help repeating on this occasion so interesting a sentiment, and leaving it as his last injunction to every officer and every soldier who may view the subject in the same serious point of light, to add his best endeavors

to those of his worthy fellow-citizens, towards effecting these great and valuable purposes, on which our very existence as a nation so materially depends.

The Commander in Chief conceives little is now wanting to enable the soldier to change the military character into that of the citizen; but that steady, decent tenor of behaviour, which has generally distinguished not only the army under his command, but the different detachments and armies through the course of the war. From their good sense and prudence he anticipates the happiest consequences; and while he congratulates them on the glorious occasion which renders their services in the field no longer necessary, he wishes to express the strong obligations he feels himself under for the assistance he has received from every class, and in every instance. He presents his thanks in the most serious and affectionate manner, to the general officers, as well for their councils on many interesting occasions, as for their ardor in promoting the success of the plans he had adopted.

To the commandants of regiments and corps, and to the other officers for their zeal and attention in carrying his orders promptly into execution—to the staff for their alacrity and exactness in performing the duties of their several departments; and to the non-commissioned officers and private soldiers, for their extraordinary patience and suffering, as well as their invincible fortitude in action. To the various branches of the army, the General takes this last and solemn opportunity of professing his inviolable attachment and friendship.—He wishes more than bare professions were in his power, that he was really able to be useful to them all in future life. He flatters himself, however, they will do him the justice to believe that whatever could with propriety be attempted by him, has been done.

And being now to conclude these his last public orders, to take his ultimate leave in a short time of the military character, and to bid a final adieu to the armies he has so long had the honor to command, he can only again offer in their behalf, his recommendations to their grateful coun-

try, and his prayers to the God of armies. May ample justice be done them here, and may the choicest of Heaven's favors, both here and hereafter attend those, who under the divine auspices, have secured innumerable blessings for others. With these wishes, and this benediction, the Commander in Chief is about to retire from service. The curtain of separation will soon be drawn, and the military scene to him will be closed forever.



### *T H E   A N S W E R .*

**W**E the officers of the part of the army remaining on the banks of the Hudfon, have received your Excellency's serious and farewell Address to the armies of the United States. We beg you to accept our unfeigned thanks for the communication, and your affectionate assurances of inviolable attachment and friendship. If your attempts to ensure to the armies the just, the promised rewards, of their long, severe, and dan-



gerous services, have failed of success, we believe it has arisen from causes not in your Excellency's power to controul. With extreme regret do we reflect on the occasion which called for such endeavors. But while we thank your Excellency for these exertions in favor of the troops you have so successfully commanded, we pray it may be believed, that in this sentiment our own particular interests have but a secondary place; and that even the ultimate ingratitude of the people (were that possible) could not shake the patriotism of those who suffer by it. Still with pleasing wonder and grateful joy shall we contemplate the glorious conclusion of our labours. To that merit in the revolution which, under the auspices of Heaven, the armies have displayed, posterity will do justice; and the sons will blush whose fathers were their foes.

Most gladly would we cast a veil on every act which sullies the reputation of our country—never should the page of history be stained with its dishonor—even from our memories should the idea be erased. We lament the opposition to

those salutary measures which the wisdom of the union has planned; measures which alone can recover and fix on a permanent basis the credit of the states; measures which are essential to the justice, the honor, and interest of the nation. While she was giving the noblest proofs of magnanimity, with conscious pride we saw her growing fame; and, regardless of present sufferings, we looked forward to the end of our toils and dangers, to brighter scenes in prospect. There we beheld the genius of our country dignified by sovereignty and independence, supported by justice, and adorned with every liberal virtue. There we saw patient husbandry fearless extend her cultured fields, and animated commerce spread her sails to every wind. There we beheld fair science lift her head, with all the arts attending in her train. There, blest with freedom, we saw the human mind expand; and, throwing aside the restraints which confined it to the narrow bounds of country, it embraced the world. Such were our fond hopes, and with such delightful prospects did they present us. Nor are we disappointed. Those animating prospects are now

changed and changing to realities ; and actively to have contributed to their production is our pride, our glory. But justice alone can give them stability. In that justice we still believe. Still we hope that the prejudices of the misinformed will be removed, and the arts of false and selfish popularity, addressed to the feelings of avarice, defeated : or, in the worst event, the world, we hope, will make the just distinction : we trust the dissimulateness of a few will not sully the reputation, the honor, and dignity, of the great and respectable majority of the states.

We are happy in the opportunity just presented of congratulating your Excellency on the certain conclusion of the definitive treaty of peace. Relieved at length from long suspense, our warmest wish is to return to the bosom of our country, to resume the character of citizens ; and it will be our highest ambition to become useful ones. To your Excellency this great event must be peculiarly pleasing : for while at the head of her armies, urged by patriot virtues and magnanimity, you persevered, under the pressure of

every possible difficulty and discouragement, in the pursuit of the great objects of the war—the freedom and safety of your country;—your heart panted for the tranquil enjoyments of peace. We cordially rejoice with you that the period of indulging them has arrived so soon. In contemplating the blessings of liberty and independence, the rich prize of eight years hard adventure, past sufferings will be forgotten; or if remembered, the recollection will serve to heighten the relish of present happiness. We sincerely pray God this happiness may long be your's; and that when you quit the stage of human life, you may receive from the unerring Judge, the rewards of valor exerted to save the oppressed, of patriotism, and disinterested virtue.

## A D D R E S S

OF GENERAL WASHINGTON TO CONGRESS,  
ON RESIGNING HIS MILITARY COMMIS-  
SION.

*December 23, 1783.*

*MR. PRESIDENT,*

THE great events on which my resignation depended having at length taken place, I have now the honor of offering my sincere congratulations to Congress, and of presenting myself before them, to surrender into their hands the trust committed to me, and to claim the indulgence of retiring from the service of my country.

Happy in the confirmation of our independence and sovereignty, and pleased with the opportunity afforded the United States, of becoming a respectable nation, I resign with satisfaction the appointment I accepted with diffidence—a diffidence in my abilities to accomplish so arduous a task; which however was superceded

by a confidence in the rectitude of our cause, the support of the supreme power of the union, and the patronage of Heaven.

The successful termination of the war has verified the most sanguine expectations; and my gratitude for the interposition of Providence, and the assistance I have received from my countrymen, increases with every review of the momentous contest.

While I repeat my obligations to the army in general, I should do injustice to my own feelings not to acknowledge, in this place, the peculiar services and distinguished merits of the gentlemen who have been attached to my person during the war. It was impossible the choice of confidential officers to compose my family should have been more fortunate. Permit me, sir, to recommend in particular, those who have continued in the service to the present moment, as worthy of the favorable notice and patronage of Congress.

I consider it an indispensable duty to close this last act of my official life by commending

the interests of our dearest country to the protection of Almighty God, and those who have the superintendence of them to his holy keeping.

Having now finished the work assigned me, I retire from the great theatre of action, and bidding an affectionate farewell to this august body, under whose orders I have so long acted, I here offer my commission, and take my leave of all the employments of public life.



## *T H E   A N S W E R .*

*SIR,*

**T**HE United States in Congress assembled receive, with emotions too affecting for utterance, the solemn resignation of the authorities under which you have led their troops with success through a perilous and a doubtful war.— Called upon by your country to defend its invaded rights, you accepted the sacred charge,

before it had formed alliances, and whilst it was without funds or a government to support you. You have conducted the great military contest with wisdom and fortitude, invariably regarding the rights of the civil power through all disasters and changes. You have, by the love and confidence of your fellow-citizens, enabled them to display their martial genius, and transmit their fame to posterity. You have persevered, till these United States, aided by a magnanimous king and nation, have been enabled, under a just Providence, to close the war in freedom, safety and independence; on which happy event we sincerely join you in congratulations.

Having defended the standard of liberty in this new world; having taught a lesson useful to those who inflict, and to those who feel oppression, you retire from the great theatre of action, with the blessings of your fellow-citizens—but the glory of your virtues will not terminate with your military command; it will continue to animate remotest ages.



We feel with you our obligations to the army in general, and will particularly charge ourselves with the interests of those confidential officers, who have attended your person to this affecting moment.

We join you in commending the interest of our dearest country to the protection of Almighty God, beseeching him to dispose the hearts and minds of its citizens, to improve the opportunity afforded them, of becoming a happy and respectable nation. And for you we address to him our earnest prayers, that a life so beloved, may be fostered with all his care; that your days may be happy as they have been illustrious; and that he will finally give you that reward which this world cannot give.

## INAUGURAL SPEECH

OF PRESIDENT WASHINGTON TO CONGRESS,

APRIL 30, 1789.

*Fellow-citizens of the Senate,  
and of the House of Representatives,*

AMONG the vicissitudes incident to life, no event could have filled me with greater anxieties, than that of which the notification was transmitted by your order, and received on the 14th day of the present month. On the one hand I was summoned by my country, whose voice I can never hear but with veneration and love, from a retreat which I had chosen with the fondest predilection, and in my flattering hopes, with an immutable decision, as the asylum of my declining years; a retreat which was rendered every day more necessary as well as more dear to me, by the addition of habit to inclination, and of frequent interruptions in my health to the gradual waste committed on it by time.— On the other hand, the magnitude and difficulty of the trust to which the voice of my country

called me, being sufficient to awaken in the wisest and most experienced of her citizens, a distrustful scrutiny into his qualifications, could not but overwhelm with despondence, one, who, inheriting inferior endowments from nature, and unpractised in the duties of civil administration, ought to be peculiarly conscious of his own deficiencies. In this conflict of emotions, all I dare aver, is, that it has been my faithful study to collect my duty from a just appreciation of every circumstance, by which it might be affected. All I dare hope, is, that if in executing this task, I have been too much swayed by a grateful remembrance of former instances, or by an affectionate sensibility to this transcendent proof of the confidence of my fellow-citizens; and have thence too little consulted my incapacity as well as disinclination, for the weighty and untried cares before me; my error will be palliated by the motives which misled me, and its consequences be judged by my country, with some share of the partiality in which they originated.

Such being the impression under which I

have, in obedience to the public summons, repaired to the present station; it would be peculiarly improper to omit in this first official act, my fervent applications to that Almighty Being who rules over the universe: who presides in the councils of nations, and whose providential aids can supply every human defect, that his benediction may consecrate to the liberties and happiness of the people of the United States, a government instituted by themselves for these essential purposes; and may enable every instrument employed in its administration, to execute with success, the functions allotted to his charge. In tendering this homage to the great author of every public and private good, I assure myself that it expresses your sentiments not less than my own; nor those of my fellow-citizens at large, less than either. No people can be bound to acknowledge and adore the invisible hand, which conducts the affairs of men, more than the people of the United States. Every step by which they have advanced to the character of an independent nation, seems to have been distinguished by some token of providential agency.

And in the important revolution just accomplished in the system of their united government, the tranquil deliberation, and voluntary consent of so many distinct communities, from which the event has resulted, cannot be compared with the means by which most governments have been established, without some return of pious gratitude along with an humble anticipation of the future blessings which the past seem to presage. These reflections arising out of the present crisis, have forced themselves too strongly on my mind to be suppressed. You will join with me, I trust, in thinking that there are none under the influence of which, the proceedings of a new and free government can more auspiciously commence.

By the article establishing the executive department, it is made the duty of the President to "recommend to your consideration, such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient." The circumstances under which I now meet you, will acquit me from entering into that subject, farther than to refer to the great constitutional

charter under which you are assembled, and which, in defining your powers, designates the objects to which your attention is to be given. It will be more consistent with those circumstances, and far more congenial with the feelings which actuate me, to substitute, in place of a recommendation of particular measures, the tribute that is due to the talents, the rectitude, and the patriotism which adorn the characters selected to devise and adopt them. In those honorable qualifications, I beheld the surest pledges, that as on one side no local prejudices, or attachments—no separate views, no party animosities, will misdirect the comprehensive and equal eye which ought to watch over this great assemblage of communities and interests; so, on the other, that the foundations of our national policy will be laid in the pure and immutable principles of private morality; and the pre-eminence of free government, be exemplified by all the attributes which can win the affections of its citizens, and command the respect of the world—I dwell on this prospect with every satisfaction which an ardent love of my country can inspire. Since

there is no truth more thoroughly established, than that there exists in the economy and course of nature, an indissoluble union between virtue and happiness; between duty and advantage, between genuine maxims of an honest and magnanimous policy, and the solid rewards of public prosperity and felicity. Since we ought to be no less persuaded that the propitious smiles of Heaven, can never be expected on a nation that disregards the eternal rules of order and right, which Heaven itself has ordained. And since the preservation of the sacred fire of liberty, and the destiny of the republican model of government, are justly considered as deeply, perhaps as finally staked on the experiment entrusted to the hands of the American people.

Besides the ordinary objects submitted to your care, it will remain with your judgment to decide, how far an exercise of the occasional power delegated by the fifth article of the constitution is rendered expedient at the present juncture by the nature of objections which have been urged against the system, or by the degree of inquietude which has given birth to them.

Instead of undertaking particular recommendations on this subject, in which I could be guided by no lights derived from official opportunities, I shall again give way to my entire confidence in your discernment and pursuit of the public good.

For I assure myself that whilst you carefully avoid alteration which might endanger the benefits of an united and effective government, or which ought to await the future lesson of experience; a reverence for the characteristic rights of free men, and a regard for the public harmony, will sufficiently influence your deliberations on the question how far the former can be more impregably fortified, or the latter be safely and advantageously promoted.

To the preceding observations I have one to add, which will be most properly addressed to the House of Representatives, it concerns myself, and will therefore be as brief as possible.

When I was first honored with a call into the service of my country, then on the eve of an



arduous struggle for its liberties, the light in which I contemplated my duty required that I should renounce every pecuniary compensation. From this resolution I have in no instance departed. And being still under the impressions which produced it, I must decline as inapplicable to myself, any share in the personal emoluments, which may be indispenfibly concluded in a permanent provision for the executive department; and must accordingly pray, that the pecuniary estimates for the station in which I am placed, may, during my continuance in it, be limited to fuch actual expenditures as the public good may be thought to require.

Having thus imparted to you my sentiments, as they have been awakened by the occasion which brings us together—I fhall take my prefent leave; but not without reforting once more to the benign parent of the human race, in humble fupplication, that fince he has been pleafed to favor the American people with opportunities for deliberating in perfect tranquility, and difpofitions for deciding with unpar-

alleled unanimity on a form of government, for the security of their union, and the advancement of their happiness; so his blessing may be equally conspicuous in the enlarged views, the temperate consultations, and the wise measures on which the success of this government must depend.



### *VALEDICTORY ADDRESS*

OF PRESIDENT WASHINGTON TO THE PEOPLE OF  
THE UNITED STATES.

*Friends and Fellow-Citizens,*

THE period for a new election of a citizen, to administer the executive government of the United States being not far distant, and the time actually arrived when your thoughts must be employed in designating the person, who is to be clothed with that important trust, it appears to me proper, especially as it may conduce to a more distinct expression of the public voice, that I should now apprise you of the resolution I have formed, to decline being considered among the

number of those out of whom a choice is to be made.

I beg you at the same time to do me the justice to be assured, that this resolution has not been taken, without a strict regard to all the considerations appertaining to the relation which binds a dutiful citizen to his country; and that in withdrawing the tender of service which silence in my situation will imply, I am influenced by no diminution of zeal for your future interest; no deficiency of grateful respect for your past kindness; but am supported by a full conviction, that the step is compatible with both.

The acceptance of, and continuance hitherto, in the office to which your suffrages has twice called me, have been an uniform sacrifice of inclination to the opinion of duty, and to a deference for what appeared to be your desire. I constantly hoped that it would have been much earlier in my power, consistently with motives, which I was not at liberty to disregard, to return to that retirement from which I had been reluc-

tantly drawn. The strength of my inclination to do this, previous to the last election, had even led to the preparation of an Address to declare it to you; but mature reflexion on the then perplexed and critical posture of our affairs with foreign nations, and the unanimous advice of persons entitled to my confidence, impelled me to abandon the idea.

I rejoice that the state of your concerns, external as well as internal, no longer renders the pursuit of inclination incompatible with the sentiment of duty or propriety: and am persuaded whatever partiality may be retained for my services, that in the present circumstances of our country, you will not disapprove of my determination to retire.

The impressions with which I first undertook the arduous trust, were explained on the proper occasion.—In the discharge of this trust I will only say, that I have with good intentions contributed towards the organization and administration of the government, the best exertions

of which a very fallible judgment was capable. Not unconscious, in the out-set, of the inferiority of qualifications, experience in my own eyes, perhaps still more in the eyes of others, has strengthened the motives to diffidence of myself; and every day the encreasing weight of years admonishes me more and more, that the shade of retirement is as necessary to me as it will be welcome. Satisfied that if any circumstance have given peculiar value to my services, they were temporary, I have the consolation to believe, that while choice and prudence invite me to quit the political scene, patriotism does not forbid it.

In looking forward to the moment which is intended to terminate the career of my public life, my feelings do not permit me to suspend the deep acknowledgment of that debt of gratitude which I owe to my beloved country, for the many honors it has conferred upon me; still more for the steadfast confidence with which it has supported me; and for the opportunities I have thence enjoyed of manifesting my inviolable

attachment, by services faithful and persevering, though in usefulness unequal to my zeal. If benefits have resulted to our country from these services, let it always be remembered to your praise, and as an instructive example in our annals, that under circumstances in which the passions, agitated in every direction, were liable to mislead amidst appearances sometimes dubious—vicissitudes of fortune often discouraging—in situations in which not unfrequently want of success has countenanced the spirit of criticism—the constancy of your support was the essential prop of the efforts, and a guarantee of the plans by which they were effected. Profoundly penetrated with this idea, I shall carry it with me to my grave, as a strong incitement to unceasing wishes, that Heaven may continue to you the choicest tokens of its beneficence—that your union and brotherly affection may be perpetual—that the free constitution, which is the work of your hands, may be sacredly maintained—that its administration in every department may be stamped with wisdom and virtue—that in fine, the happiness of the people of these states, under

the auspices of liberty, may be made complete, by so careful a preservation and so prudent a use of this blessing, as will acquire to them the glory of recommending it to the applause, the affection, and the adoption of every nation which is yet a stranger to it.

Here, perhaps, I ought to stop. But a solicitude for your welfare, which cannot end but with my life, and the apprehension of danger, natural to that solicitude, urge me, on an occasion like the present, to offer to your solemn contemplation, and to recommend to your frequent review, some sentiments, which are the result of much reflexion, of no inconsiderable observation, and which appear to me all important to the permanency of your felicity as a people. These will be offered to you with the more freedom, as you can only see in them the disinterested warnings of a parting friend, who can possibly have no personal motive to bias his counsel. Nor can I forget, as an encouragement to it, your indulgent reception of my sentiments on a former and not dissimilar occasion.

Interwoven as is the love of liberty with every ligament of your hearts, no recommendation of mine is necessary to fortify or confirm the attachment.

The unity of government, which constitutes you one people, is also now dear to you. It is justly so; for it is a main pillar in the edifice of your real independence; the support of your tranquility at home; your peace abroad; of your safety, of your prosperity; of that very liberty which you so highly prize. But as it is easy to foresee,<sup>1</sup> that from different causes and from different quarters, much pains will be taken, many artifices employed to weaken in your minds the conviction of this truth. As this is the point in your political fortress against which the batteries of internal and external enemies will be most constantly and actively (though often covertly and insidiously) directed, it is of infinite moment, that you should properly estimate the immense value of your national union, to your collective and individual happiness; that you should cherish a cordial, habitual,



and immovable attachment to it; accustoming yourselves to think and speak of it as of the palladium of your political safety and prosperity, watching for its preservation with jealous anxiety; discountenancing whatever may suggest even a suspicion that it can in any event be abandoned; and indignantly frowning upon the first dawning of every attempt to alienate any portion of our country from the rest, or to enfeeble the sacred ties which now link together the various parts.

For this you have every inducement of sympathy and interest. Citizens by birth or choice, of a common country, that country has a right to concentrate your affections. The name of AMERICAN, which belongs to you in your national capacity, must always exalt the just pride of patriotism, more than any appellation derived from local discriminations. With slight shades of difference, you have the same religion, manners, habits, and political principles. You have in a common cause fought and triumphed together; the independence and liberty you pos-

sefs, are the work of joint councils, and joint efforts of common dangers, sufferings and successes.

But these considerations, however powerfully they address themselves to your sensibility, are greatly out-weighed by those which apply more immediately to your interest. Here every portion of our country finds the most commanding motives for carefully guarding and preserving the union of the whole.

The north, in an unrestrained intercourse with the south, protected by the equal laws of a common government, finds in the productions of the latter, great additional resources of maritime and commercial enterprize and precious materials of manufacturing industry. The south in the same intercourse, benefiting by the agency of the north, sees its agriculture grow and its commerce expand. Turning partly into its own channels the seamen of the north, it finds its peculiar navigation invigorated—and while it contributes, in different ways, to nourish and increase the

general mass of the national navigation, it looks forward to the protection of a maritime strength, to which itself is unequally adapted. The east, in like intercourse with the west, already finds, and in the progressive improvement of interior communications, by land and water, will more and more find a valuable vent for the commodities which it brings from abroad, or manufactures at home. The west derives from the east supplies requisite to its growth and comfort—and what is perhaps of still greater consequence, it must of necessity owe the secure enjoyment of indispensable outlets for its own productions to the weight, influence, and the future maritime strength of the Atlantic side of the union, directed by an indissoluble community of interest as one nation. Any other tenure by which the west can hold this essential advantage, whether derived from its own separate strength, or from an apostate and unnatural connection with any foreign power must be intrinsically precarious.

While then every part of our country thus feels an immediate and particular interest in

union, all the parties combined cannot fail to find in the united mass of means and efforts, greater strength, greater resource, proportionably greater security from external danger, a less frequent interruption of their peace by foreign nations; and what is of inestimable value they must derive from union an exemption from those broils and wars between themselves which so frequently afflict neighboring countries, not tied together by the same government; which their own rivalships alone would be sufficient to produce, but which opposite foreign alliances, attachments and intrigues, would stimulate and embitter. Hence likewise they will avoid the necessity of those overgrown military establishments, which under any form of government are inauspicious to liberty, and which are to be regarded as particularly hostile to republican liberty: In this sense it is, that your union ought to be considered as a main prop of your liberty, and that the love of the one ought to endear to you the preservation of the other.

These considerations speak a persuasive lan-

guage to every reflecting and virtuous mind, and exhibit the continuance of the union as a primary object of patriotic desire. Is there a doubt whether a common government can embrace so large a sphere? Let experience solve it. To listen to mere speculation in such a case were criminal. We are authorized to hope that a proper organization of the whole, with the auxiliary agency of governments for the respective subdivisions, will afford a happy issue to the experiment. 'Tis well worth a fair and full experiment. With such powerful and obvious motives to union, affecting all parts of our country, while experience shall not have demonstrated its impracticability, there will always be reason to distrust the patriotism of those, who in any quarter may endeavor to weaken its bands.

In contemplating the causes which may disturb our union, it occurs as a matter of serious concern, that any ground should have been furnished for characterizing parties by geographical discriminations—northern and southern—atlandic and western: whence designing men may endea-

vor to excite a belief that there is a real difference of local interests and views. One of the expedients of party to acquire influence, within particular districts, is to misrepresent the opinions and aims of other districts. You cannot shield yourselves too much against the jealousies and heart burnings which spring from these misrepresentations: they tend to render alien to each other, those who ought to be bound together by fraternal affection. The inhabitants of our western country have lately had a useful lesson on this head: they have seen, in the negotiation by the Executive, and in the unanimous ratification by the Senate, of the treaty with Spain, and in the universal satisfaction at that event, throughout the United States, a decisive proof how unfounded were the suspicions propagated among them of a policy in the general government, and in the Atlantic states, unfriendly to their interests in regard to the Mississippi: they have been witnesses to the formation of two treaties, that with Great Britain and that with Spain, which secure to them every thing they could desire, in respect to our foreign relations,

towards confirming their prosperity. Will it not be their wisdom to rely for the preservation of these advantages on the union by which they were procured? Will they not henceforth be deaf to those advisers, if such there are, who would sever them from their brethren, and connect them with aliens?

To the efficacy and permanency of your union, a government for the whole is indispensable. No alliances, however strict, between the parts can be an adequate substitute; they must inevitably experience the infractions and interruptions which all alliances in all times have experienced. Sensible of this momentous truth, you have improved upon your first essay, by the adoption of a constitution of government, better calculated than your former, for an intimate union, and for the efficacious management of your common concerns. This government, the offspring of our own choice, uninfluenced and unawed, adopted upon full investigation and mature deliberation, completely free in its principles, in the distribution of its powers, uniting

security with energy, and containing within itself a provision for its own amendments, has a just claim to your confidence and your support.—Respect for its authority, compliance with its laws, acquiescence in its measures, are duties enjoyed by the fundamental maxims of true liberty. The basis of our political systems is the right of the people to make and to alter their constitutions of government—But the constitution which at any time exists, until changed by an explicit and authentic act of the whole people, is sacredly obligatory upon all. The very idea of the power and the right of the people to establish a government, presupposes the duty of every individual to obey the established government.

All obstructions to the execution of the laws, all combinations and associations, under whatever plausible character, with the real design to direct, controul, counteract, or awe the regular deliberation and action of the constituted authorities, are destructive of this fundamental principle, and of fatal tendency. They serve to



organize faction, to give it an artificial and extraordinary force, to put in the place of the delegated will of the nation, the will of a party, often a small, but artful and enterprising minority of the community; and according to the alternate triumphs of different parties, to make the public administration, the mirror of the ill-concerted and incongruous projects of faction, rather than the organ of consistent and wholesome plans, digested by common councils, and modified by mutual interests.

However combinations or associations of the above description may now and then answer popular ends, they are likely in the course of time and things to become potent engines, by which cunning, ambitious, and unprincipled men will be enabled to subvert the power of the people, and to usurp for themselves the reins of government; destroying afterwards the very engines which have lifted them to unjust dominion.

Towards the preservation of your govern-

ment, and the permanency of your present happy state, it is requisite not only that you speedily discountenance irregular oppositions to its acknowledged authority, but also that you resist with care the spirit of innovation upon its principles, however specious the pretexts. One method of assault may be to effect in the forms of the constitution alterations which will impair the energy of the system, and thus to undermine what cannot be directly overthrown. In all the changes to which you may be invited, remember that time and habit are at least as necessary to fix the true character of governments, as of other human institutions—that experience is the surest standard, by which to test the real tendency of the existing constitution of a country—that facility in changes upon the credit of mere hypothesis and opinion, exposes to perpetual change, from the endless variety of hypothesis and opinion; and remember, especially that for the efficient management of your common interests, in a country so extensive as ours, a government of as much vigor as is consistent with the perfect security of liberty, is indispen-

ble. Liberty itself will find in such a government, with powers properly distributed and adjusted, its surest guardian. It is indeed, little else than a name, where the government is too feeble to withstand the enterprises of faction, to confine each member of the society within the limits prescribed by the laws, and to maintain all in the secure and tranquil enjoyment of the rights of person and property.

I have already intimated to you, the danger of parties in the state, with particular reference to the founding of them on geographical discriminations. Let me now take a more comprehensive view, and warn you in the most solemn manner against the baneful effects of the spirit of party, generally.

This spirit, unfortunately, is inseparable from our nature, having its root in the strongest passions of the human mind. It exists under different shapes in all governments, more or less stifled, controuled, or repressed; but in those of the popular form, it is seen in its greatest rankness, and is truly their worst enemy.

The alternate domination of one faction over another, sharpened by the spirit of revenge, natural to party dissension, which in different ages and countries has penetrated the most horrid enormities, is itself a frightful despotism. But this leads at length to a more formal and permanent despotism. The disorders and miseries which result, gradually incline the minds of men to seek security and repose in the absolute power of an individual; and sooner or later the chief of some prevailing faction, more able or more fortunate than his competitors, turns this disposition to the purposes of his own elevation, on the ruins of public liberty.

Without looking forward to an extremity of this kind (which nevertheless ought not to be out of sight) the common and continual mischiefs of the spirit of party are sufficient to make it the interest and duty of a wise people to discourage and restrain it.

It serves always to distract the public councils and enfeeble the public administration. It agitates the community with ill-founded jeal-

oufies and false alarms; kindles the animosity of one part against another, foment occasionally riot and insurrection. It opens the door to foreign influence and corruption, which find a facilitated access to the government itself through the channels of party passions. Thus the policy and the will of one country are subjected to the policy and will of another.

There is an opinion that parties in free countries are useful checks upon the administration of the government, and serve to keep alive the spirit of liberty. This within certain limits is probably true; and in governments of a monarchical cast, patriotism may look with indulgence, if not with favor upon the spirit of party. But in those of the popular character, in governments purely elective, it is a spirit not to be encouraged. From their natural tendency, it is certain there will always be enough of that spirit for every salutary purpose. And there being constant danger of excess, the effort ought to be, by force of public opinion to mitigate and assuage it. A fire not to be quenched; it demands a uniform vigi-

lance to prevent its bursting into a flame, left instead of warming it should consume.

It is important likewise, that the habits of thinking in a free country, should inspire caution, in those intrusted with its administration, to confine themselves within their respective constitutional spheres, avoiding in the exercise of the powers of one department to encroach upon another.—The spirit of encroachment tends to consolidate the powers of all the departments in one, and thus to create, whatever the form of government, a real despotism. A just estimate of that love of power, and proneness to abuse it, which predominates in the human heart, is sufficient to satisfy us of the truth of this position. The necessity of reciprocal checks in the exercise of political power; by dividing and distributing it into different depositaries, and constituting each the guardian of the public weal against invasions by the others, has been evinced by experiments ancient and modern; some of them in our country and under our own eyes. To preserve them must be as necessary as to institute

them. If in the opinion of the people, the distribution or modification of the constitutional powers, be in any particular wrong, let it be corrected by an amendment in the way which the constitution designates. But let there be no change by usurpation; for though this in one instance, may be the instrument of good, it is the customary weapon by which free governments are destroyed. The precedent must always greatly overbalance in permanent evil, any partial or transient benefit which the use can at any time yield.

Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism, who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of men and citizens. The mere politician, equally with the pious man, ought to respect and to cherish them. A volume could not trace all their connections with private and public felicity. Let it simply be asked, where is the security for property, for

reputation, for life, if the sense of religious obligation desert the oaths, which are the instruments of investigation in courts of justice? And let us with caution indulge the supposition, that morality can be maintained without religion. Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on minds of peculiar structure; reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principles.

It is substantially true, that virtue or morality is a necessary spring of popular government. The rule indeed extends with more or less force to every species of free government. Who that is a sincere friend to it can look with indifference upon attempts to shake the foundation of the fabric?

Promote then, as an object of primary importance, institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge. In proportion as the structure of a government gives force to public opinion, it is essential that public opinion should be enlightened.



As a very important source of strength and security, cherish public credit. One method of preserving it is to use it as sparingly as possible; avoiding occasions of expence by cultivating peace, but remembering also that timely disbursements to prepare for danger, frequently prevent much greater disbursements to repel it; avoiding likewise the accumulation of debt, not only by shunning occasions of expence, but by vigorous exertions in time of peace to discharge the debts which unavoidable wars may have occasioned, not ungenerously throwing upon posterity the burthen which we ourselves ought to bear. The execution of these maxims belongs to your representatives, but it is necessary that public opinion should co-operate. To facilitate to them the performance of their duty, it is essential that you should practically bear in mind, that towards the payment of debts there must be revenue; that to have revenue there must be taxes; that no taxes can be devised which are not more or less inconvenient and unpleasant; that the intrinsic embarrassment inseparable from the selection of the proper objects (which is

always a choice of difficulties) ought to be a decisive motive for a candid construction of the conduct of the government in making it, and for a spirit of acquiescence in the measures for obtaining revenue which the public exigencies may at any time dictate.

Observe good faith and justice towards all nations, cultivate peace and harmony with all; religion and morality enjoin this conduct; and can it be that good policy does not equally enjoin it? It will be worthy of a free, enlightened, and at no distant period a great nation, to give to mankind the magnanimous and too novel example of a people always guided by an exalted justice and benevolence.—Who can doubt that in the course of time and things the fruits of such a plan would richly repay any temporary advantages which might be lost by a steady adherence to it? Can it be, that Providence has not connected the permanent felicity of a nation with its virtue? The experiment, at least, is recommended by every sentiment which ennobles human nature. Alas! it is rendered impossible by its vices?

In the execution of fuch a plan, nothing is more efsential than that permanent, inveterate antipathies againft particular nations, and paffionate attachments for others fhould be excluded; and that in place of them juft and amicable feelings towards all fhould be cultivated. The nation, which indulges towards another an habitual hatred, or an habitual fondnefs, is in fome degree a flave. It is a flave to its animofity or to its affection, either of which is fufficient to lead it aftray from its duty and its intereft. Antipathy in one nation againft another, difpofes each more readily to offer insult and injury, to lay hold of flight caufes of umbrage, and to be haughty and intractable, when accidental or trifling occafions of difpute occur.

Hence frequent collifions, obftinate, envenomed, and bloody contefts. The nation, prompted by ill will and refentment, fometimes impels to war the government, contrary to the beft calculations of policy. The government fometimes participates in the national propenfity, and adopts through paffion what reafon

would reject; at other times, it makes the animosity of the nation subservient to projects of hostility instigated by pride, ambition, and other sinister and pernicious motives. The peace often, and sometimes, perhaps, the liberty of nations has been the victim.

So likewise, a passionate attachment of one nation for another, produces a variety of evils. Sympathy for the favorite nation facilitating the illusion of an imaginary common interest in cases where no real common interests exists, and infusing into one the enmities of the other, betrays the former into a participation in the quarrels and wars of the latter, without adequate inducement or justification. It leads also to concessions to the favorite nation of privileges denied to others, which is apt doubly to injure the nation making the concessions; by unnecessarily parting with what ought to have been retained; and by exciting jealousy, ill will, and a disposition to retaliate, in the parties from whom equal privileges are withheld: and it gives to ambitious, corrupted, or deluded citizens (who devote themselves to the favorite nation) facility

to betray, or sacrifice the interests of their own country, without odium, sometimes even with popularity; gilding with the appearance of a virtuous sense of obligation, a commendable deference for public opinion, or laudable zeal for public good, the base of foolish compliances of ambition, corruption, or infatuation.

As avenues to foreign influence in innumerable ways, such attachments are particularly alarming to the truly enlightened and independent patriot. How many opportunities do they afford to tamper with domestic factions, to practice the arts of seduction, to mislead public opinion, to influence or awe the public councils? Such an attachment of a small or weak, towards a great and powerful nation, dooms the former to be the satellite of the latter. Against the insidious wiles of foreign influence (I conjure you to believe me, fellow-citizens) the jealousy of a free people ought to be constantly awake; since history and experience prove that foreign influence is one of the most baneful foes of republican government. But that jealousy to be useful

must be impartial; else it becomes the instrument of the very influence to be avoided, instead of a defence against it. Excessive partiality for one foreign nation, and excessive dislike of another, cause those whom they actuate to see danger only on one side, and serve to veil and even second the arts of influence on the other. Real patriots, who may resist the intrigues of the favorite, are liable to become suspected and odious; while its tools and dupes usurp the applause and confidence of the people, to surrender their interests.

The great rule of conduct for us, in regard to foreign nations, is in extending our commercial relations, to have with them as little political connection as possible. So far as we have already formed engagements, let them be fulfilled with perfect good faith. Here let us stop.

Europe has a set of primary interests, which to us have none, or a very remote relation. Hence she must be engaged in frequent controversies, the causes of which are essentially foreign

to our concerns. Hence, therefore, it must be unwise in us to implicate ourselves by artificial ties, in the ordinary vicissitudes of her politics, or the ordinary combinations and collisions of her friendships or enmities.

Our detached and distant situation, invites and enables us to pursue a different course. If we remain one people, under an efficient government, the period is not far off, when we may defy material injury from external annoyance; when we may take such an attitude as will cause the neutrality we may at any time resolve upon, to be scrupulously respected; when belligerent nations, under the impossibility of making acquisitions upon us, will not lightly hazard the giving us provocation; when we may choose peace or war, as our interest, guided by justice, shall counsel.

Why forego the advantages of so peculiar a situation? Why quit our own stand upon foreign ground? Why, by interweaving our destiny with that of any part of Europe, entan-

gle our peace and prosperity in the toils of European ambition, rivalry, interest, humor or caprice?

'Tis our true policy to steer clear of permanent alliances with any portion of the foreign world; so far, I mean, as we are now at liberty to do it; for let me not be understood as capable of patronising infidelity to existing engagements. I hold the maxim no less applicable to public than to private affairs, that honesty is always the best policy. I repeat it, therefore, let those engagements be observed in their genuine sense. But in my opinion, it is unnecessary, and would be unwise to extend them.

Taking care always to keep ourselves, by suitable establishments, on a respectable defensive posture, we may safely trust to temporary alliances for extraordinary emergencies.

Harmony, liberal intercourse with all nations, are recommended by policy, humanity, and interest. But even our commercial policy should hold an equal and impartial hand; neither



seeking nor granting exclusive favors or preferences ; consulting the natural course of things ; diffusing and diversifyng by gentle means the streams of commerce, but forcing nothing ; establishing, with powers so disposed, in order to give trade a stable course, to define the rights of our merchants, and to enable the government to support them ; conventional rules of intercourse, the best that present circumstances and mutual opinion will permit, but temporary, and liable to be from time to time abandoned or varied, as experience and circumstances shall dictate ; constantly keeping in view, that it is folly in one nation to look for disinterested favors from another ; that it must pay with a portion of its independence for whatever it may accept under that character ; that by such acceptance, it may please itself in the condition of having given equivalents for nominal favors, and yet of being reproached with ingratitude for not giving more. There can be no greater error than to expect, or calculate upon real favors from nation to nation. 'Tis an illusion which experience must cure, which a just pride ought to discard.

In offering to you, my countrymen, these counsels of an old and affectionate friend, I dare not hope they will make the strong and lasting impression I could wish—that they will controul the usual current of passions, or prevent our nation from running the course which has hitherto marked the destiny of nations. But if I may even flatter myself, that they may be productive of some partial benefit, some occasional good; that they may now and then recur to moderate the fury of party spirit, to warn against the mischiefs of foreign intrigues, to guard against the impostures of pretended patriotism; this hope will be a full recompence for the solicitude for your welfare, by which they have been dictated.

How far in the discharge of my official duties, I have been guided by the principles which have been delineated, the public records and other evidences of my conduct must witness to you and to the world. To myself, the assurance of my own conscience is, that I have at least believed myself to be guided by them.

In relation to the still subsisting war in Eu-

rope, my proclamation of the 22d of April, 1793, is the index to my plan. Sanctioned by your approving voice, and by that of your Representatives in both Houses of Congress, the spirit of that measure has continually governed me; uninfluenced by any attempts to deter or divert me from it.

After deliberate examination with the aid of the best lights I could obtain, I was well satisfied that our country, under all the circumstances of the case, had a right to take, and was bound in duty and interest, to take a neutral position. Having taken it, I determined, as far as should depend upon me, to maintain it, with moderation, perseverance and firmness.

The considerations which respect the right to hold this conduct, it is not necessary on this occasion to detail. I will only observe, that according to my understanding of the matter, that right, so far from being denied by any of the belligerent powers, has been virtually admitted by all.

The duty of holding a neutral conduct may be inferred, without any thing more, from the obligation which justice and humanity impose on every nation, in cases in which it is free to act, to maintain inviolate the relations of peace and amity towards other nations.

The inducements of interest for observing that conduct will be the best referred to your own reflections and experience. With me, a predominant motive has been to endeavor to gain time to our country to settle and mature its yet recent institutions, and to progress without interruption, to that degree of strength and consistency, which is necessary to give it, humanly speaking, the command of its own fortunes.

Though in reviewing the incidents of my administration, I am unconscious of intentional error: I am nevertheless too sensible of my defects not to think it probable that I may have committed many errors. Whatever they may be, I fervently beseech the Almighty to avert or mitigate the evils to which they may tend. I shall also carry with me the hope that my country

will never cease to view them with indulgence; and that after forty-five years of my life dedicated to its service, with an upright zeal, the faults of incompetent abilities will be consigned to oblivion, as myself must soon be to the mansions of rest.

Relying on its kindness in this as in other things, and actuated by that fervent love towards it, which is so natural to a man who views in it the native soil of himself and his progenitors for several generations; I anticipate with pleasing expectations that retreat, in which I promise myself to realize, without alloy, the sweet enjoyment of partaking, in the midst of my fellow-citizens, the benign influence of good laws under a free government—the ever favorite object of my heart, and the happy reward and trust, of our mutual cares, labors and dangers.

*United States, Sept. 17, 1796.*

## A L E T T E R

FROM HIS EXCELLENCY *GEORGE WASHINGTON*, TO THE  
*PRESIDENT* OF THE UNITED STATES, ON ACCEPTING  
 THE APPOINTMENT OF COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE  
 ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES.

*Mount Vernon, July 13, 1798.*

DEAR SIR,

I HAD the honor on the evening of the 11th instant, to receive from the hand of the secretary of war, your favor of the 7th, announcing that you had, with the advice and consent of the Senate, appointed me "Lieutenant-General and Commander in Chief of all the armies raised or to be raised for the service of the United States."

I cannot express how greatly affected I am at this new proof of public confidence, and the highly flattering manner in which you have been pleased to make the communication; at the same time I must not conceal from you my earnest wish, that the choice had fallen upon a man less declined in years, and better qualified to encounter the usual vicissitudes of war.

You know, sir, what calculation I had made relative to the probable course of events, on my retiring from office, and the determination I had consoled myself with, of closing the remnant of my days in my present peaceful abode: you will therefore be at no loss to conceive and appreciate the sensation I must have experienced, to bring my mind to any conclusion that would pledge me, at so late a period of life, to leave scenes I sincerely love, to enter upon the boundless field of public action, incessant trouble, and high responsibility.

It was not possible for me to remain ignorant of, or indifferent to recent transactions. The conduct of the Directory of France towards our country; their insidious hostility to its government; their various practices to withdraw the affections of the people from it; the evident tendency of their acts and those of their agents to countenance and invigorate opposition; their disregard of solemn treaties and the laws of nations; their war upon our defenceless commerce; their treatment of our ministers of peace; and their

demands amounting to tribute, could not fail to excite in me corresponding sentiments with those my countrymen have so generally expressed in their affectionate addresses to you. Believe me, sir, no one can more cordially approve of your administration.—They ought to inspire universal confidence, and will, no doubt, combined with the state of things, call from Congress such laws and means as will enable you to meet the full force and extent of the crisis.

Satisfied, therefore, that you have sincerely wished and endeavored to avert war, and exhausted, to the last drop, the cup of reconciliation, we can with pure hearts appeal to Heaven for the justice of our cause, and may confidently trust the final result to that kind Providence who has heretofore, and so often, signally favored the people of these United States.

Thinking in this manner, and feeling how incumbent it is upon every person of every description, to contribute at all times to his country's welfare, and especially in a moment like the present, when every thing we hold dear and sacred



is so seriously threatened; I have finally determined to accept the commission of Commander in Chief of the armies of the United States; with the reserve only, that I shall not be called into the field until the army is in a situation to require my presence, or it becomes indispensable by the urgency of circumstances.

In making this reservation, I beg it to be understood, that I do not mean to withhold any assistance to arrange and organize the army, which you may think I can afford. I take the liberty also to mention, that I must decline having my acceptance considered as drawing after it any immediate charge upon the public; or that I can receive any emoluments annexed to the appointment, before entering into a situation to incur expense.

The Secretary of War being anxious to return to the seat of government, I have detained him no longer than was necessary to a full communication upon the several points he had in charge.

I have the honor to be, &c. &c.

G. WASHINGTON.

## Death of Washington.

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*On the 14th of December, 1799, died suddenly, at his seat in Virginia, Gen. GEORGE WASHINGTON, Commander in Chief of the armies of the United States of America;*

MATURE IN YEARS,  
COVERED WITH GLORY, AND  
RICH IN THE AFFECTIONS OF THE  
AMERICAN PEOPLE.

WHEN men of common character are swept from the theatre of life, they die without the tribute of public notice or concern, as they had lived without a claim to public esteem. When personages of more exalted worth are summoned from the scenes of sublunary existence, their death calls forth a burst of general regret, and invigorates the flame of public gratitude. In obedience to the wishes, and to the voice of their country, the orator, the poet, and the historian,

combine to do justice to the virtues of their character, while the labors of the painter, the sculptor, and the statuary, in perpetuating their likenesses, do homage to their memory.

But, when, in compliance with Heaven's high mandate, the HERO OF THE AGE lies numbered with the dead—when the reverend sage, the august statesman, the father of his country, has resigned his breath—when the Idol of an Empire, the envy and admiration of distant nations, and the brightest ornament of human nature—when WASHINGTON IS NO MORE ! let a sense of the general loss be testified by the badges of a general mourning ; but let not the voice of eulogy be heard, lest the weakness of talents, and the deficiency of language, do injustice to the lustre and fame of the deceased !

From Vernon's Mount behold the HERO rise !  
Resplendent forms attend him thro' the skies !  
The shades of war-worn veterans round him throng,  
And lead, enwrapt, their honored Chief along !  
A laurel wreath th' immortal *Warren* bears,  
An arch triumphal *Mercer's* hand prepares,

Young *Laurence* 'erst th' avenging bolt of war,  
With port majestic guides the glittering car,  
*Montgomery's* godlike form directs the way,  
And *Green* unfolds the gates of endless day !  
While angels, "trumpet-tongued," proclaim thro' air,  
"Due honors for the FIRST OF MEN prepare."

[*True Amer.*]

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*The first information of the death of General WASHINGTON, was given to Congress on the 18th of December, in the following manner :*

MR. MARSHALL, in a voice that bespoke the anguish of his mind, and a countenance expressive of the deepest regret, rose, and delivered himself as follows :

MR SPEAKER,

"Information has just been received, that our illustrious fellow-citizen, the Commander in Chief of the American Armies and the late President of the United States, is no more.

Though this distressing intelligence is not

certain, there is too much reason to believe its truth. After receiving information of this national calamity, so heavy and so afflicting, the House of Representatives can be but ill fitted for public business. I move you, therefore, they adjourn."

The motion was unanimously agreed to; and the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

*December 19.*

This event was confirmed officially by a message from the President communicating a letter from Tobias Lear, Esq. private secretary to General WASHINGTON.

*Gentlemen of the Senate,  
and of the House of Representatives,*

The letter herewith transmitted will inform you that it has pleased Divine Providence to remove from this life, our excellent fellow-citizen GEORGE WASHINGTON, by the purity of his character and a long series of services to his

country, rendered illustrious through the world. It remains for an affectionate and grateful people, in whose hearts he can never die, to pay suitable honor to his memory.

JOHN ADAMS.

*Mount Vernon, December 16, 1799.*

SIR,

It is with inexpressible grief that I have to announce to you the death of the great and good General WASHINGTON. He died last evening between 10 and 11 o'clock, after a short illness of about 24 hours. His disorder was an inflammatory sore throat, which proceeded from a cold, of which he made but little complaint on Friday. On Saturday morning about 3 o'clock he became ill. Doctor Dick attended him in the morning, and Dr. Craick, of Alexandria, and Dr. Brown, of Port Tobacco, were soon after called in. Every medical assistance was offered, but without the desired effect. His last scene corresponded with the whole tenor of his life. Not a groan or a complaint escaped him, in extreme distress.

with perfect resignation and a full possession of his reason he closed his well spent life.

I have the honor to be, &c.

TOBIAS LEAR.

Mr. Marshall with deep sorrow on his countenance, and in a low, pathetic tone of voice, rose and addressed the House as follows :

The melancholy event which was yesterday announced with doubt, has been rendered but too certain. Our WASHINGTON is no more ! The hero, the sage, and the patriot of America—the man on whom in times of danger every eye was turned and all hopes were placed, lives now, only in his own great actions, and in the hearts of an affectionate and afflicted people.

If, sir, it had even not been usual openly to testify respect for the memory of those whom Heaven had selected as its instruments for dispensing good to men, yet such has been the uncommon worth, and such the extraordinary incidents which have marked the life of him whose

lofs we all deplore, that the whole American nation, impelled by the fame feelings, would call with one voice for a public manifestation of that forrow which is fo deep and fo univerfal.

More than any other individual, and as much as to one individual was poffible, has he contributed to found this our wide fpreading empire, and to give to the western world its independence and its freedom.

Having effected the great object for which he was placed at the head of our armies, we have feen him convert the fword into the ploughshare, and voluntarily fink the foldier into the citizen.

When the debility of our federal fyftem had become manifeft, and the bonds which connected the parts of this vaft continent were difolving, we have feen him the chief of thofe patriots who formed for us a conftitution, which, by preferving the union, will, I trust, fubftantiate and perpetuate thofe bleffings our revolution had promifed to beftow.

In obedience to the general voice of his



country, calling on him to preside over a great people, we have seen him once more quit the retirement he loved, and in a season more stormy and tempestuous than war itself, with calm and wise determination, pursue the true interests of the nation, and contribute more than any other could contribute, to the establishment of that system of policy, which will, I trust, yet preserve our peace, our honor and our independence.

Having been twice unanimously chosen the chief magistrate of a free people, we see him, at a time when his re-election with the universal suffrage could not have been doubted, affording to the world a rare instance of moderation, by withdrawing from his high station to the peaceful walks of private life.

However the public confidence may change, and the public affection may fluctuate with respect to others, yet with respect to him they have, in war and in peace, in public and in private life, been as steady as his own firm mind, and as constant as his own exalted virtues.

Let us then, Mr. Speaker, pay the last tribute of respect and affection to our departed friend. Let the grand council of the nation display those sentiments which the nation feels.

For this purpose, I hold in my hand some resolutions which I will take the liberty to offer to the House.

“Resolved, That this House will wait on the President of the United States, in condolence of this mournful event.

“Resolved, That the Speaker’s chair be shrouded with black, and that the members and officers of the House wear black during the session.

“Resolved, That a committee in conjunction with one from the Senate, be appointed to consider on the most suitable manner of paying honor to the memory of the man, first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his country.

“Resolved, That this House when it adjourn, do adjourn to Monday.”

These resolutions were unanimously agreed to.—Sixteen members were appointed on the third resolution.

Generals Marshall and Smith were appointed to wait on the President to know at what time it would be convenient to receive the House.

Generals Marshall and Smith having waited on the President with the first resolution, reported, that the President would be ready to receive them at one o'clock this day. The House accordingly waited on him.

The Speaker addressed the President in the following words :

SIR,

The House of Representatives, penetrated with a sense of the irreparable loss sustained by the nation, by the death of that great and good man, the illustrious and beloved WASHINGTON, wait on you, sir, to express their condolence on this melancholy and distressing event.

To which the President made the following answer :

*Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,*

I receive with great respect and affection the condolence of the House of Representatives on the melancholy and afflicting event in the death of the most illustrious and beloved personage which this country ever produced. I sympathize with you, with the nation, and with good men through the world, in this irreparable loss sustained by us all.

JOHN ADAMS.

A message was received from the Senate, informing the House that they had agreed to the appointment of a joint committee, to consider a suitable manner of paying honor to the memory of the man first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his country, and that they had appointed seven members to join a committee of the House for that purpose.

## SENATE.

*December 23.*

Agreeably to the first resolution the House waited on the President, whom they addressed in the following words :

The Senate of the United States respectfully take leave, sir, to express to you their deep regret for the loss their country sustains in the death of General *GEORGE WASHINGTON*.

This event, so distressing to all our fellow-citizens, must be peculiarly heavy to you, who have long been associated with him in deeds of patriotism. Permit us, sir, to mingle our tears with yours : on this occasion it is manly to weep. To lose such a man at such a crisis is no common calamity to the world : our country mourns her father. The Almighty disposer of human events has taken from us our greatest benefactor and ornament. It becomes us to submit with reverence to him, who "maketh darkness his pavilion."

With patriotic pride we review the life of our *WASHINGTON*, and compare him with those of

other countries who have been pre-eminent in fame. Ancient and modern names are diminished before him. Greatness and guilt have too often been allied ; but his fame is whiter than it is brilliant. The destroyers of nations stood abashed at the majesty of his virtue. It reproved the intemperance of their ambition and darkened the splendor of victory. The scene is closed, and we are no longer anxious lest misfortune should sully his glory ; he has travelled on to the end of his journey and carried with him an encreasing weight of honor ; he has deposited it safely, where misfortune cannot tarnish it, where malice cannot blast it. Favored of Heaven, he departed without exhibiting the weakness of humanity ; magnanimous in death, the darkness of the grave could not obscure his brightness.

Such was the man whom we deplore. Thanks to God, his glory is consummated. *WASHINGTON* yet lives on earth in his spotless example—his spirit is in Heaven.

Let his countrymen consecrate the memory of the heroic general, the patriotic statesman, and

the virtuous sage: let them teach their children never to forget that the fruits of his labors, and his example are their inheritance.

To which the President returned the following answer :

*Gentlemen of the Senate,*

I receive with the most respectful and affectionate sentiments, in this impressive address, the obliging expressions of your regret for the loss our country has sustained, in the death of her most esteemed, beloved, and admired citizen.

In the multitude of my thoughts and recollections, on this melancholy event, you will permit me only to say, that I have seen him in the days of adversity, in some of the scenes of his deepest and most trying perplexities; I have also attended him in his highest elevation and most prosperous felicity; with uniform admiration of his wisdom, moderation and constancy.

Among all our original associates, in that memorable league of the continent in 1774, which first expressed the sovereign will of a free nation

in America, he was the only one remaining in the general government. Although, with a constitution more enfeebled than his, at an age when he thought it necessary to prepare for retirement, I feel myself alone, bereaved of my last brother; yet I derive a strong consolation from the unanimous disposition, which appears in all ages and classes, to mingle their sorrows with mine, on this common calamity to the world.

The life of our *WASHINGTON* cannot suffer by a comparison with those of other countries, who have been most celebrated and exalted by fame. The attributes and decorations of royalty, could have only served to eclipse the majesty of those virtues, which made him, from being a modest citizen, a more resplendent luminary. Misfortune, had he lived, could hereafter have sullied his glory only with those superficial minds, who, believing that characters and actions are marked by success alone, rarely deserve to enjoy it. Malice could never blast his honor, and envy made him a singular exception to her universal rule. For himself he had lived enough, to life and to



glory. For his fellow-citizens, if their prayers could have been answered, he would have been immortal. For me, his departure is at a most unfortunate moment.—Trusting, however, in the wise and righteous dominion of Providence over the passions of men, and the results of their councils and actions, as well as over their lives, and nothing remains for me, but humble resignation.

His example is now complete, and it will teach wisdom and virtue to magistrates, citizens, and men, not only in the present age, but in future generations, as long as our history shall be read. If a Trajan found a Pliny, a Marcus Aurelius can never want biographers, eulogists or historians.

JOHN ADAMS.

In the House of Representatives General Marshall made a report from the joint committee appointed to consider a suitable mode of commemorating the death of General *WASHINGTON*.

He reported the following resolutions :

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That a marble monument be erected by the United States at the capitol of the city of Washington, and that the family of General *WASHINGTON* be requested to permit his body to be deposited under it, and that the monument be so designed as to commemorate the great events of his military and political life.

*And be it further resolved,* That there be a funeral procession from Congress hall to the German Lutheran church, in memory of General *GEORGE WASHINGTON*, on Thursday the 26th inst. and that an oration be prepared at the request of Congress, to be delivered before both Houses that day; and that the President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives, be desired to request one of the members of Congress to prepare and deliver the same.

*And be it further resolved,* That it be recommended to the people of the United States, to wear crape on their left arm, as mourning, for thirty days.

*And be it further resolved,* That the President of the United States be requested to direct a copy of these resolutions to be transmitted to Mrs. Washington, assuring her of the profound respect Congress will ever bear for her person and character, of their condolence on the late affecting dispensation of Providence, and entreating her assent to the interment of the remains of General *WASHINGTON* in the manner expressed in the first resolution.

*And be it further resolved,* That the President of the United States be requested to issue his proclamation, notifying to the people throughout the United States, the recommendation contained in the third resolution.

These resolutions passed both Houses unanimously.

## A PROCLAMATION.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

WHEREAS the Congress of the United States "in honor of the memory of General *GEORGE WASHINGTON*," have this day resolved, "That it be recommended to the people of the United States, to wear crape on the left arm as mourning, for thirty days;" and, "That the President of the United States be requested to issue a proclamation, notifying to the people throughout the United States the said recommendation." Now, therefore, I, JOHN ADAMS, President of the United States, do hereby proclaim the same accordingly.

Given under my hand and the seal of the United States, at Philadelphia, the twenty-fourth day of December, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine, and of the independence of the United States the twenty-fourth.

JOHN ADAMS.

By the President,  
TIMOTHY PICKERING, Secretary of State.

*Adjutant general's Office,  
New-York, December 24, 1799.*

**MAJOR** General Hamilton, has received, thro' the Secretary of War, the following order from the President of the United States.

The President, with deep regret, announces to the army, the death of its beloved chief, General *GEORGE WASHINGTON*. Sharing in the grief which every heart must feel for so heavy and afflicting a public loss, and desirous to express his high sense of the vast debt of gratitude which is due to the virtues, talents and ever memorable services of the illustrious deceased, he directs that funeral honors be paid to him at all the military stations, and that the officers of the army and of the several corps of volunteers, wear crape on the left arm, by way of mourning, for six months. Major General Hamilton will give the necessary orders for carrying into effect the foregoing directions.

The impressive terms, in which this great national calamity is announced by the President,

could receive no new force from any thing that might be added. The voice of praise would in vain endeavor to exalt a character, unrivalled on the list of true glory. Words would in vain attempt to give utterance to that profound and reverential grief, which will penetrate every American bosom, and engage the sympathy of an admiring world. If the sad privilege of pre-eminence in sorrow may justly be claimed by the companions in arms of our lamented chief, their affections will spontaneously perform the dear, though painful duty. It is only for me to mingle my tears, with those of my fellow-soldiers, cherishing with them the precious recollection, that while others are paying a merited tribute to "the man of the age," we in particular, allied as we are to him by a close tie, are called to mourn the irreparable loss of a kind and venerable patron and father!

In obedience to the directions of the President, the following funeral honors will be paid at the several stations of the army.

At day break sixteen guns will be fired in

quick succession, and one gun at the distance of each half hour until sun set.

During the procession of the troops to the place representing that of the interment, and until the conclusion of the ceremonial, minute guns will be fired.

The bier will be received by the troops formed in line, presenting their arms, and the officers, drums and colors saluting; after this the procession will begin; the troops marching by platoons in inverted order, and with arms reversed to the place of interment—the drums muffled, and the music playing a dead march.

The bier carried by four serjeants, and attended by six pall-bearers, where there is cavalry, will be preceded by the cavalry and will be followed by the troops on foot.—Where there is no cavalry, a detachment of infantry will precede the bier, which itself will in every case be preceded by such of the clergy as may be present. The officers of the general staff will immediately succeed the bier.

Where a numerous body of citizens shall be united with the military in the procession, the whole of the troops will precede the bier, which will then be followed by the citizens.

When arrived near the place of interment, the procession will halt. The troops in front of the bier, will form in line, and opening their ranks will face inwards, to admit the passage of the bier, which will then pass through the ranks, the troops leaning on their arms reversed while the bier passes! When the bier shall have passed, the troops will resume their position in line, and reversing their arms, will remain leaning upon them until the ceremonial shall be closed.

The music will now perform a solemn air, after which the introductory part of this order shall be read.

At the end of this, a detachment of infantry appointed for the purpose, will advance and fire three volleys over the bier. The troops will



then return ; the music playing the President's march, the drums previously unmuffled.

The uniform companies of militia are invited to join in arms the volunteer corps.

The commanders at particular stations, conforming generally to this plan, will make such exceptions as will accommodate it to situation. At places where processions of unarmed citizens shall take place, it is the wish of the Major-General that the military ceremonial should be united. And the particular commanders at those places are authorised to vary the plan, so as to adapt it to the circumstances.

Brigadier General Macpherson is charged to superintend the ceremonial in the city of Philadelphia. Major Toufsard will attend to Fort Mifflin, and will co-operate with him.

The day of performing the ceremonial at each station is left to the particular commanders.

Major General Pinckney will make such

further arrangements within his district as he shall deem expedient.

W. NORTH, *Ad. Gen.*

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*December 24, 1799.*

The Speaker informed the House, that in conformity to the second resolution passed on Monday, Major-General Lee had been appointed by the President of the Senate, and he Speaker of the House of Representatives, to prepare and deliver the oration in honor of our late illustrious commander in chief, on Thursday next, which appointment he had been pleased to accept.

A message was received from the President of the United States, notifying the House that he had agreed to the resolutions passed on Monday, in honor of the memory of General WASHINGTON, and deposited them among the rolls and records of the United States.

Mr. Marshall, from the joint committee

appointed to confider and report what meafures ought to be adopted in honor of the memory of General WASHINGTON, made another report in part, which was unanimoafly agreed to by the Houfe, in the words following, to wit :

*Resolved, by the Senate and Houfe of Representatives of the United States in Congress afsembled,* That it be recommended to the people of the United States, to afsemble on the twenty-fecond day of February next, in fuch numbers and manner as may be convenient, publicly to teftify their grief for the death of General GEORGE WASHINGTON, by fuitable eulogies, orations, and difcourfes ; or by public prayers.

*And be it further resolved,* That the Prefident of the United States be requested to recommend the fame, by a proclamation for that purpofe.

## A PROCLAMATION.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA.

WHEREAS the Congress of the United States have this day resolved, "That it be recommended to the people of the United States, to assemble on the twenty-second day of February next, in such numbers and manner as may be convenient, publicly to testify their grief for the death of General GEORGE WASHINGTON, by suitable eulogies, orations and discourses, or by public prayers;" and, "That the President be requested to issue a proclamation for the purpose of carrying the foregoing resolution into effect." Now, therefore, I, JOHN ADAMS, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the same accordingly.

Given under my hand and the seal of the  
United States, at Philadelphia, the sixth day

of January, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and of the independence of the said states the twenty-fourth.

JOHN ADAMS.

By the President,

TIMOTHY PICKERING, Secretary of State.

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*Alexandria (Virg.) December 21, 1799.*

*PARTICULAR ACCOUNT*

OF THE LATE *ILLNESS* AND *DEATH* OF

George Washington.

SOME time in the night of Friday, the 10th instant, having been exposed to a rain on the preceeding day, General WASHINGTON was attacked with an inflammatory affection of the upper part of the wind pipe, called in technical language CYNACHE TRACHEALIS.—The disease commenced with a violent ague, accompanied with some pain in the upper and fore part of the throat, a sense of stricture in the same part, a cough, and a difficult, rather than a painful deg-

lution, which were soon succeeded by fever and a quick and laborious respiration. The necessity of blood-letting suggesting itself to the General, he procured a bleeder in the neighbourhood, who took from his arm in the night twelve or fourteen ounces of blood. He could not by any means be prevailed on by the family to send for the attending physician till the following morning, who arrived at Mount Vernon at about 11 o'clock on Saturday. Discovering the case to be highly alarming, and foreseeing the fatal tendency of the disease, two consulting physicians were immediately sent for, who arrived, one at half after three, and the other at four o'clock in the afternoon: in the mean time were employed two pretty copious bleedings, a blister was applied to the part affected, two moderate doses of calomel were given, and an injection was administered, which operated on the lower intestines, but all without any perceptible advantage, the respiration becoming still more difficult and distressing. Upon the arrival of the first of the consulting physicians, it was agreed, as there were yet no signs of accumulation in the bron-

chial vessels of the lungs, to try the result of another bleeding, when about thirty-two ounces of blood were drawn, without the smallest apparent alleviation of the disease. Vapours of vinegar and water were frequently inhaled, ten grains of calomel were given, succeeded by repeated doses of emetic tartar, amounting in all to five or six grains, with no other effect than a copious discharge from the bowels. The powers of life seemed now manifestly yielding to the force of the disorder; blisters were applied to the extremities, together with a cataplasm of bran and vinegar to the throat. Speaking, which was painful from the beginning, now became almost impracticable; respiration grew more and more contracted and imperfect, till half after 11 on Saturday night, retaining the full possession of his intellect—when he expired without a struggle.

He was fully impressed at the beginning of his complaint, as well as through every succeeding stage of it, that its conclusion would be mortal; submitting to the several exertions made for

his recovery, rather as a duty, than from any expectation of their efficacy. He considered the operations of death upon his system as coeval with the disease; and several hours before his death, after repeated efforts to be understood, succeeded in expressing a desire that he might be permitted to die without further interruption.

During the short period of his illness, he economized his time, in the arrangement of such few concerns as required his attention, with the utmost serenity; and anticipated his approaching dissolution with every demonstration of that equanimity for which his whole life has been so uniformly and singularly conspicuous.

JAMES CRAICK, Attending Physician.  
ELISHA C. DICK, Consulting Physician.



## Washington's Funeral.

*Extract of a letter from a correspondent in Alexandria, dated December 19, 1799.*

„ YESTERDAY I attended the funeral of the savior of our country at Mount Vernon; and had the honor of being one who carried his body to the vault.—He was borne by military gentlemen, and brethern of our lodge, of which he was formerly master. I inclose you a sketch of the procession. To describe the scene is impossible.—The coffin bore his sword and apron; and the members of the lodge walked as mourners. His horse was led, properly caprifoned, by two of his servants, in mourning.

“ As I helped place his body in the vault, and stood at the door while the funeral service was performing, I had the best opportunity of observing the countenances of all. Every one was affected, but none so much as his domestics of all ages.

## Interment.

*GEORGE-TOWN, December 20, 1799.*

ON Wednesday last, the mortal part of *WASHINGTON* the great—the father of his country and the friend of man, was consigned to the tomb, with solemn honors and funeral pomp.

A multitude of persons assembled, from many miles around, at Mount Vernon, the choice abode and last residence of the illustrious chief. There were the groves, the spacious avenues, the beautiful and sublime scenes, the noble mansion ; but alas ! the august inhabitant was now no more. That great soul was gone. His mortal part was there indeed ; but ah ! how affecting ! how awful the spectacle of such worth and greatness, thus, to mortal eyes, fallen : yes ! fallen ! fallen !

In the long and lofty portico, where oft the hero walked in all his glory, now lay the shrouded corpse.—The countenance still composed and

ferene, seemed to express the dignity of the spirit which lately dwelt in that lifeless form. There those who paid the last sad honors to the benefactor of his country, took an impressive, a farewell view.

On the ornament, at the head of the coffin, was inscribed *SURGE AD JUDICIUM*; about the middle of the coffin, *GLORIA DEO*; and on the silver plate,

### General George Washington.

DEPARTED THIS LIFE, ON THE 14th DEC. 1799,

Æt. 68.

Between three and four o'clock, the sound of artillery from a vessel in the river, firing minute guns, awoke afresh our solemn sorrow: the corpse was moved; a band of music with mournful melody, melted the soul into all the tenderness of woe.

The procession was formed and moved on in the following order :

*Cavalry, } with arms reversed, { Guard,  
Infantry, }*

*MUSIC,*

*CLERGY,*

*The General's horse, with his saddle, bolsters, and  
pistols.*

*Col. SIMMS,*

*The  
Corpse.*

*Col. GILPIN,*

*Col. RAMSAY,*

*Col. MARSTELLER,*

*Col. PAYNE,*

*The*

*Col. LITTLE.*

*MOURNERS,*

*MASONIC BRETHREN,*

*CITIZENS.*

When the procession had arrived at the bottom of the elevated lawn, on the banks of the Potomac, where the family vault is placed, the cavalry halted, the infantry marched towards the Mount and formed the inlines; the clergy, the masonic brothers, and the citizens descended to

the vault, and the funeral service of the church was performed. The firing was repeated from the vessel in the river, and the sounds echoed from the woods and the hills around.

Three general discharges by the infantry, the cavalry, and eleven pieces of artillery, which lined the banks of the Potomac back of the vault, paid the last tribute to the entombed commander in chief of the armies of the United States, and to the venerable departed hero.

The fun was now fitting. Alas! the *fun of glory* was set forever. No—the name of WASHINGTON, the American President and General will triumph over death; the unclouded brightness of his glory will illuminate future ages.



### *FUNERAL PROCESSION AT PHILADELPHIA.*

*Philadelphia, December 27.*

YESTERDAY was observed in this city as a day of mourning for the loss of the Father

of our Country. Business was suspended, the citizens appeared in the habiliments of grief—and the tones of the deep muffled bells ascended on high—while Philadelphia paid a merited tribute of respect to our beloved WASHINGTON, by pompous funeral honors—and genuine grief.

At the dawn of day, sixteen guns were fired in quick succession, and one gun at each half hour till sunset. At noon, the bier was received by the troops forming in line, presenting their arms, and the officers, drums, and colors saluting, after which the procession formed and moved to the German Lutheran Church in the following order—Minute guns firing at distance.

Trumpeter,

Playing a dead march.

A detachment of Captains Wharton and

M'Kean's troops—

Standards of the troops in the centre, covered  
with black crape.

General Macpherson

AND

His aid-de camp.

Militia legion of Pennsylvania,

Marching by platoons, in inverted order, with  
arms reverfed—standards covered with black crape.

Macpherfon's Blues,

Marching by platoons, in inverted order, with  
arms reverfed—standards covered with black crape.

Captain Singer's Troop,

Swords drawn—marching in open file, in in-  
verted order, standard and music in mourning.

Captain Leiper's Troop,

Swords drawn—marching in open file, in in-  
verted order, standard and music in mourning.

Captain Morrel's Troop,

Swords drawn—marching in open file, in in-  
verted order, standard and music in mourning.

Captain Dunlap's Troop,

Swords drawn—marching in open file, in in-  
verted order, standard and music in mourning.

County Troop,

Swords drawn—marching in open file, in in-  
verted order, standard and music in mourning.

Militia Officers,

## Officers of the Navy.

Thirty-three Clergymen—with white Scarfs.

A White Horse covered with black crape, with saddle, holsters and pistols—white and black plumes on his head.

Maj. JACKSON



Maj. TOUSSARD

Maj. HOPKINS



Maj. MOYLAN

Benj. STODDARD



Jas. M'HENRY.

Marshal of the United States,

In deep mourning with a white wand encircled with black crape.

Sergeant at arms of the Senate of the  
United States,

With a white wand encircled with black crape.

President and secretary of the senate, and members of the senate, two and two,

With white scarfs, tied in a bow on the left shoulder—in the centre of the bow a rose of black ribbon.

Sergeant at arms of the House of Representatives,

With a white wand encircled with black crape.



Speaker and Clerk of the House of Representatives and Members of the House of Representatives two and two,

With white scarfs tied in a bow on the shoul-  
der—  
in the centre of the bow, a rose of black ribbon.

Heads of Departments.

Judiciary of the United States.

American Commissioners under the 6th article of  
the British treaty, with their agent.

American Commissioners under the treaty  
with Spain.

Post-master General and Comptroller of treasury.  
Auditor and Treasurer.

Register and Commissioner of Revenue.

Purveyor and Commissary of military stores.

Deputy Postmaster-General and Accountants of  
War and Navy.

Collector, Naval Officer and Surveyor of the Port  
of Philadelphia, Society of Cincinnati.

Masons.

Officers of the Army, Navy, and Militia, not on  
duty.

Mayor and Recorder of the City.  
Aldermen.

Members of the Select and Common Councils.  
Citizens.

On the arrival of the front Platoon at the Church the Procefsion halted. The troops in front of the Bier formed in line; and opening their ranks, made an avenue, through which the Bier and remainder of the procefsion pafsed—the troops leaning on their arms reverfed.

As the procefsion entered the church, the folemn peals of the deep-toned organ impreffed the mind with the utmoft folemnity, and well prepared it for the mournful occafion; and, when the Orator of the day painted in glowing colours the illuftrious deeds and virtues of the deceafed, the public grief burft into unrestrained lamentation.

When he had ceafed to fpeak, the mournful founds of the organ again “softened the foul to all the tendernefs of woe,” while the following lines were chaunted by the Thefpian choir.

*MISS HUNTLY.**1st.—Serious Air and Chorus.*

Columbia's Sons may now lament,  
Their spear is broke, their bow unbent,  
Their glory fled;  
Amongst the dead Great *WASHINGTON* lies,  
Forever closed his eyes.

Glorious Hero ! may thy grave  
Peace and Honor ever have ;  
After all thy pains and woes,  
Rest eternal, sweet repose :  
Bring the Laurels, bring the Bays,  
Strew his hearse, and strew the ways.

DA CAPO.

*MR. DARLEY.*

His glorious deeds inspired my tongue,  
Whilst airs of joy from thence did flow,  
To sorrows now I tune my song  
And set my Harp to notes of woe.

*MISS BROADHURST.**1st.*

Sad, sad are the tidings rumour tells,  
A grateful people mourn his end ;  
Amidst the brave and just he dwells,  
His country's Father and its Friend.

2d.

With honor crowned, mature in age,  
He fell the wonder of mankind ;  
Laden with laurels left the stage,  
Nor leaves alas his like behind.

3d.

Seated in bliss supreme on high,  
O ! Spirit dear attend our prayer,  
Our Guardian Angel still be nigh,  
Make thy lov'd land thy Heav'nly care.

*MRS. OLDMIXON.*

4th.

Angels ever bright and fair,  
Take, Oh take him to your care ;  
Speed to your own courts his flight,  
Clad in robes of virgin white,  
Angels ever bright and fair,  
Take, Oh take him to your care.

*MR. CARR.*

5th.

Lord remember thy people,  
Make us to know thy ways ;  
O guide our tongues with meekness,  
Daily to sing thy praise.

*MRS. WARRELL.*

Pious orgies, pious airs,  
Decent sorrows decent prayers,

Will to the Lord ascend ;  
And move his pity,  
And regain his love.

## CHORUS.

His body is buried in peace,  
But his name liveth evermore.

When the chaunting had ceased, the Bier was borne to its destined spot amidst solemn martial music and the repeated volleys of musquetry. After which the troops forming again in line, returned to their respective parades in proper order.

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## IN SENATE.

*Friday, December 27.*

On motion,

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the Senate be communicated, through its President, to General Henry Lee, for the elegant and impressive Oration to the memory of General *GEORGE WASHINGTON*, which he prepared and delivered at the request of Congress.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary be directed to apply to General Lee for a copy of the same.

*HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.*

December 30.

The speaker read to the house the following letters :

*Philadelphia, 27th Dec., 1799.*

DEAR SIR,

The inclosed resolutions, which unanimously passed the House of Representatives this day, will make known to you how highly they have been gratified with the manner in which you have performed the service assigned to you, in preparing and delivering a funeral oration on the death of General *WASHINGTON*. That our constituents may participate in the gratification we have received, from your having so well expressed the sentiments of respect for the character, of gratitude for the service, and of grief for the death of that illustrious personage; I flatter myself you will not hesitate to comply with the request of the house, by furnishing a copy of your oration to be taken for publication. Allow me, while performing this pleasing task of official duty, in commu-

nicating an act of the Representatives of the people, so just to you, and so honorable to themselves, to embrace the opportunity to declare that

I am, personally, .

With great esteem

and sincere regard,

Dear Sir,

Your friend and obedient servant,

THEODORE SEDGWICK.

The hon. Maj. Gen. Lee.

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*Franklin Court, Dec. 28, '99.*

DEAR SIR,

I owe to the goodness of the House of Representatives, the honor which their respective resolutions confer on my humble efforts to execute their wish.

I can never disobey their will, and therefore will furnish a copy of the oration delivered on the late afflicting occasion, much as I had flattered myself with a different disposition of it.

Sincerely reciprocating the personal considerations with which you honor me,

I am very respectfully, sir,  
your friend and ob't servant

HENRY LEE.

The Speaker of the House }  
of Representatives. }

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## Funeral Oration

### ON THE DEATH OF GENERAL WASHINGTON.

DELIVERED BY THE HON. MR. LEE, M. C.

IN obedience to your\* will, I rise your humble organ, with a hope of executing a part of the system of public mourning which you have been pleased to adopt, commemorative of the death of the most illustrious and most beloved personage this country has ever produced;

\* *The two Houses of Congress.*



and when, while it transmits to posterity your sense of the awful event, faithfully represents your knowledge of the consummate excellence you so cordially honor.

Desperate indeed is any attempt on earth to meet correspondently this dispensation of heaven; for, while with pious resignation we submit to the will of an all-gracious Providence, we can never cease lamenting in our finite view of Omnipotent wisdom, the heart-rending privation for which our nation weeps. When the civilized world shakes to its centre; when every moment gives birth to strange and momentous changes; when our peaceful quarter of the globe, exempt as it happily has been from any share in the slaughter of the human race, may yet be compelled to abandon her pacific policy, and to risk the doleful casualties of war: What limit is there to the extent of our loss?—None within the reach of my words to express: none which your feelings will not disavow.

The founder of our federal republic—our bulwark in war, our guide in peace, is no more.

Oh that this was but questionable ! Hope, the comforter of the wretched, would pour into our agonized hearts its balmy dew. But alas ! there is no hope for us ; our WASHINGTON, is removed forever. Possessing the stoutest frame, the purest mind, he had passed nearly to his sixty-eighth year, in the enjoyment of high health, when habituated by his care of us to neglect himself, a slight cold, disregarded, became inconvenient on Friday, oppressive on Saturday, and defying every medical interposition, before the morning of Sunday, put an end to the best of men. An end did I say—His fame survives ! bounded only by the limits of the earth, and by the extent of the human mind. He survives in our hearts, in the growing knowledge of our children, in the affection of the good throughout the world ; and when our monuments will be done away ; when nations now existing shall be no more ; when even our young and far-spreading empire shall have perished, still will our WASHINGTON's glory unfaded shine, and die not, until love of virtue cease on earth, or earth itself sinks into chaos.

How, my fellow-citizens, shall I single to your grateful hearts his pre-eminent worth! Where shall I begin in opening to your view a character throughout sublime. Shall I speak of his warlike achievements, all springing from obedience to his country's will—all directed to his country's good?

Will you go with me to the banks of the Monongahela, to see your youthful WASHINGTON, supporting in the dismal hour of Indian victory, the ill fated Braddock, and saving by his judgement and by his valor, the remains of a defeated army, pressed by the conquering savage foe? Or, when oppressed America, nobly resolving to risk her all in defence of her violated rights, he was elevated by the unanimous voice of Congress to the command of her armies: Will you follow him to the high grounds of Boston, where to an undisciplined, courageous and virtuous yeomanry, his presence gave the stability of system, and infused the invincibility of love of country: Or shall I carry you to the painful scenes of Long-Island, York-Island and

New-Jersey, when combating superior and gallant armies, aided by powerful fleets, and led by chiefs high in the roll of fame, he stood the bulwark of our safety; undismayed by disaster; unchanged by change of fortune.—Or will you view him in the precarious fields of Trenton, where deep gloom unnerving every arm, reigned triumphant through our thinned, worn down unaided ranks: himself unmoved.—Dreadful was the night; it was about this time of winter—The storm raged—the Delaware rolling furiously with floating ice forbad the approach of man. WASHINGTON, self collected, viewed the dreadful scene—his country called; unappalled by surrounding dangers, he passed to the hostile shore; he fought; he conquered. The morning sun cheered the American world. Our country rose on the event; and her dauntless chief pursuing his blow, completed in the lawns of Princeton, what his vast soul had conceived on the shores of Delaware.

Thence to the strong grounds of Morristown he led his small but gallant band; and through an eventful winter, by the high efforts of

his genius, whose matchless force was measurable only by the growth of difficulties, he held in check formidable hostile legions, conducted by a Chief experienced in the art of war, and famed for his valor on the ever-memorable heights of Abraham, where fell Wolfe, Montcalm, and since our much lamented Montgomery; all covered with glory. In this fortunate interval, produced by his masterly conduct, our fathers, ourselves, animated by his resistless example, rallied round our country's standard, and continued to follow her beloved Chief, throughout the various and trying scenes to which the destinies of our union led. Who is there that has forgotten the vales of Brandywine, the fields of Germantown, or the plains of Monmouth; every where present, wants of every kind obstructing, numerous and valliant armies encountering, himself a host, he assuaged our sufferings, limited our privations, and upheld our tottering republic. Shall I display to you the spread of the fire of his soul, by rehearsing the praises of the hero of Saratoga, and his much loved compeer of the Carolina's? No; our

WASHINGTON wears not borrowed glory: to Gates—to Greene, he gave without reserve the applause due to their eminent merit; and long may the Chiefs of Saratoga, and of Eutaws, receive the grateful respect of a grateful people.

Moving in his own orbit, he imparted heat and light to his most distant satellites; and combining the physical and moral force of all within his sphere, with irresistible weight he took his course, commiserating folly, disdaining vice, dismaying treason and invigorating despondency, until the auspicious hour arrived, when, united with the intrepid forces of a potent and magnanimous ally, he brought to submission the fierce conqueror of India; thus finishing his long career of military glory with a lustre corresponding to his great name, and in this last act of war affixing the seal of fate to our nation's birth.

To the horrid din of battle sweet peace succeeded, and our virtuous chief, mindful only of the common good, in a moment tempting personal aggrandizement, hushed the discontents of growing sedition, and surrounding his power

into the hands from which he had received it, converted his sword into a ploughshare, teaching an admiring world that to be truly great, you must be truly good.

Was I to stop here, the picture would be incomplete, and the task imposed unfinished—Great was our WASHINGTON in war, and much as did that greatness contribute to produce the American Republic, it is not in war alone his pre-eminence stands conspicuous; his various talents combining all the capacities of a statesman with those of the soldier, fitted him alike to guide the councils and the armies of our nation. Scarcely had he rested from his martial toils, while his invaluable parental advice was still founding in our ears, when he who had been our shield and our sword, was called forth to act a less splendid but more important part.

Possessing a clear and penetrating mind, a strong and a sound judgment, calmness and temper for deliberation, with invincible firmness and perseverance in resolutions maturely formed,

drawing information from all, acting from himself with incorruptible integrity and unvarying patriotism: his own superiority and the public confidence alike marked him as the man designed by Heaven to lead in the great political as well as military events which have distinguished the *Æra* of his life.

The finger of an overruling Providence, pointing at WASHINGTON, was neither mistaken nor unobserved: when to realize the vast hopes to which our revolution had given birth, a change of political system became indispensable.

How novel, how grand the spectacle, independent states stretched over an immense territory, and known only by common difficulty, clinging to their union as the rock of their safety, deciding by frank comparison of their relative condition, to rear on that rock, under the guidance of reason, a common government through whose commanding protection, liberty and order, with their long train of blessings should be safe to themselves, and the sure inheritance of their posterity.



This arduous task devolved on citizens selected by the people, from knowledge of their wisdom and confidence in their virtue. In this august assembly of sages and patriots, *WASHINGTON* of course was found—and, as if acknowledged to be the most wise, where all were wise, with one voice he was declared their chief. How well he merited his rare distinction, how faithful were the labors of himself and his companions, the work of their hands and our union, strength and prosperity, the fruits of that work, best attest.

But to have essentially aided in presenting to his country this consummation of her hopes, neither satisfied the claims of his fellow-citizens on his talents, nor those duties which the possession of those talents imposed. Heaven had not infused into his mind such an uncommon share of its ætherial spirit to remain unemployed, now bestowed on him his genius unaccompanied with the corresponding duty of devoting it to the common good. To have framed a constitution, was shewing only, without realizing the general happiness. This great work remained to be done,

and America, steadfast in her preference, with one voice summoned her beloved *WASHINGTON*, unpractised as he was in the duties of civil administration, to execute this last act in the completion of the national felicity. Obedient to her call, he assumed the high office with that self distrust peculiar to his innate modesty, the constant attendant of pre-eminent virtue. What was the burst of joy through our anxious land on this exalting event is known to us all. The aged, the young, the brave, the fair, rivalled each other in demonstrations of their gratitude ; and this high wrought delightful scene was heightened in its effect, by the singular contest between the zeal of the bestowers and the avoidance of the receiver of the honors bestowed. Commencing his administration, what heart is not charmed with the pure and wise principles announced by himself as the basis of his political life. He best understood the indissoluble union between virtue and happiness, between duty and advantage, between the genuine maxims of an honest and magnanimous policy, and the solid rewards of public prosperity and individual felicity : watching with

an equal and comprehensive eye over this great assemblage of communities and interests, he laid the foundations of our national policy in the unerring immutable principles of morality, based on religion, exemplifying the pre-eminence of free government, by all the attributes which win the affections of its citizens or command the respect of the world.

*"O fortunatus nimium, sua si bona norint !"*

Leading through the complicated difficulties produced by previous obligations and conflicting interests, seconded by succeeding houses of Congress, enlightened and patriotic, he surmounted all original obstructions, and brightened the path of our national felicity.

The presidential term expiring, his solicitude to exchange exaltation for humility returned, with a force increased with increase of age, and he had prepared his farewell address to his countrymen, proclaiming his intention, when the united interposition of all around him, enforced by the eventful prospects of the epoch, produced

a further sacrifice of inclination to duty. The election of President followed, and *WASHINGTON*, by the unanimous vote of the nation, was called to resume the chief magistracy: what a wonderful fixure of confidence! Which attracts most our admiration, a people so correct, or a citizen combining an assemblage of talents forbidding rivalry, and stifling even envy itself? Such a nation ought to be happy, such a chief must be forever revered.

War, long menaced by the Indian tribes, now broke out; and the terrible conflict deluging Europe with blood, began to shed its baneful influence over our happy land. To the first, outstretching his invincible arm, under the orders of the gallant Wayne, the American Eagle soared triumphant through distant forests. Peace following victory, and the melioration of the condition of the enemy followed peace. Godlike virtue which uplifts even the subdued savage.

To the second he opposed himself. New and delicate was the conjuncture, and great was the stake. Soon did his penetrating mind discern

and seize the only course, continuing to us all, the felicity enjoyed. He issued his proclamation of neutrality. This index to him whose subsequent conduct, was sanctioned by the approbation of both Houses of Congress, and the approving voice of the people.

To this sublime policy he inviolably adhered, unmoved by foreign intrusion, unshaken by domestic turbulence.

*"Fustum et tenacem propositi virum  
"Non civium ardor prava jubentium,  
"Non vultus instantis tyranni  
"Mente quatit solida."*

Maintaining his pacific system at the expence of no duty, America faithful to herself and unstained in her honor, continued to enjoy the delights of peace, while afflicted Europe mourns in every quarter, under the accumulated miseries of an unexampled war ; miseries in which our happy country must have shared, had not our pre-eminent *WASHINGTON* been as firm in council as he was brave in the field.

Pursuing steadfastly his course, he held safe the public happiness, preventing foreign war, and quelling internal discord, till the revolving period of a third election approached, when he executed his interrupted but inextinguishable desire of returning to the humble walks of private life.

The promulgation of his fixed resolution, stopped the anxious wishes of an affectionate people from adding a third unanimous testimonial of the unabated confidence in the man so long enthroned in their hearts. When, before was affection like this exhibited on earth?—Turn over the records of ancient Greece. Review the annals of mighty Rome,—examine the volumes of modern Europe; you search in vain. America and her *WASHINGTON* only afford the dignified exemplification.

The illustrious personage called by the national voice in succession to the arduous office of guiding a free people, had new difficulties to encounter: the amicable effort of settling our dif-

facilities with France, begun by *WASHINGTON*, and pursued by his successor in virtue as in station, proving abortive, America took measures of self defence. No sooner was the public mind roused by a prospect of danger, than every eye was turned to the friend of all, though secluded from public view, and grey in public service; the virtuous veteran, following his plough,\* received the unexpected summons with mingled emotions of indignation at the unmerited ill treatment of his country, and of a determination once more to risk his all in her service.

The annunciation of these feelings, in his affecting letter to the President accepting the command of the army, concludes his official conduct.

First in war—first in peace—and first in the hearts of his countrymen, he was seconded to

\* *GENERAL WASHINGTON* though opulent, gave much of his time and attention to practical agriculture.

none in the humble and endearing scenes of private life, pious, humane, temperate and sincere; uniform, dignified and commanding, his example was as edifying to all around him, as were the effects of that example lasting.

To his equals he was condescending, to his inferiors kind, and to the dear object of his affections exemplarily tender: correct throughout, vice shuddered in his presence, and virtue always felt his fostering hand; the purity of his private character gave effulgence to his public virtues.

His last scene comported with the whole tenor of his life. Although in extreme pain, not a sigh, not a groan escaped him; and with undisturbed serenity he closed his well spent life—Such was the man America has lost—Such was the man for whom our nation mourns.

Methinks I see his august image, and hear falling from his venerable lips these deep sinking words:



“ Cease, sons of America, lamenting our separation: go on, and confirm by your wisdom the fruits of your joint councils, joint efforts, and common dangers; Reverence religion, diffuse knowledge throughout your land, patronize the arts and sciences; let Liberty and Order be inseparable companions, controul party spirit, the bane of free governments; observe good faith to, and cultivate peace with all nations, shut up every avenue to foreign influence, contract rather than extend national connection, rely on yourselves only; Be American in thought, word, and deed—Thus will you give immortality to that union, which was the constant object of my terrestrial labours; thus will you preserve undisturbed to the latest posterity, the felicity of a people to me most dear, and thus will you supply (if my happiness is now aught to you) the only vacancy in the round of pure bliss high Heaven bestows.”

*THE THEATRE.*

LAST evening joined in the public testimony of regret for the loss of America's hero. The house, which was "full to overflowing," displayed a scene calculated to impress the mind with the utmost solemnity and sorrow. The pillars supporting the boxes were encircled with black crape, the chandeliers were decorated with the insignia of woe, and the audience, particularly the female part, appeared covered with the badges of mourning.—About 7 o'clock the band struck up "*WASHINGTON'S* march," after which a solemn dirge was played, when the curtain slowly rising, discovered a tomb in the centre of the stage, in the Grecian style of architecture, supported by trusses. In the centre of it was a portrait of the general, encircled by a wreath of oaken leaves; under the portrait a sword, shield, and helmet, and the colors of the United States. The top was in the form of a Pyramid, in the front of which appeared the American Eagle, weeping

tears of blood for the loss of her General, and holding in her beak a scroll, on which was inscribed "*A nation's tears.*"

The sides of the stage were decorated with black banners, containing the names of the several states of the union, in golden letters, over which mourning trophies were suspended. A monody was recited by Mr. Wignell, accompanied with the following airs.

The tragedy of the Roman Father, which concluded the performances of the evening, gave general satisfaction.

*AIRS IN THE MONODY.*

*AIR I.*

SLOWLY strike the solemn bell,  
Nature sound thy deepest knell,  
Power of Music ! touch the heart,  
Nature there will do her part.  
God of melancholy come !  
Pensive o'er the Hero's tomb,  
In saddest strains his loss deplore,  
With piercing cries rend ev'ry shore,  
For WASHINGTON is now no more.

*AIR II.*

GLORY, bring thy fairest wreath,  
Place it on thy HERO's urn,  
MERCY, in soft accents breathe  
"He never made this bosom mourn."  
Ev'ry virtue here attend,  
Bending o'er his sacred earth;  
GRATITUDE, thy influence lend,  
Make us feel his mighty worth.

*AIR III.*

Hold not back the sacred tear,  
Give to him the sigh sincere,  
Who living, liv'd for all.  
Sorrow take the solemn hour!  
Prostrate to thy melting power,  
Let humble mortals fall.  
Come sable Goddess, take the soul  
Devoted to thy dark controul;  
Come take our hearts, and press them deep,  
Angels may joy, but man must weep.

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*PHILADELPHIA, FEB. 24.*

ON Saturday last the 22d inst. being appointed by Congress as a day of mourning

throughout the United States, for the death of *GEORGE WASHINGTON*: a great number of the citizens kept their houses shut, and abstained from all business during the day.

The Reverend Mr. Carr delivered an eulogium on the character of *WASHINGTON*, to a crowded audience, at St. Mary's Roman Catholic church in Fourth street at eleven o'clock.

At 12 o'clock, the Society of the Cincinnati assembled at the State-House, and proceeded to the German Lutheran Church, preceded by several military corps.

#### *THE SOCIETY OF CINCINNATI.*

Officers of the Army and Navy.

Officers of the Militia of the City and County of Philadelphia.

Having reached the church, after solemn vocal and instrumental music, and prayers by the Rev. Dr. Rogers, a very eloquent Oration, on the life and character of the departed hero, was

delivered by *MAJOR Wm. JACKSON*, one of the members of the Society of the Cincinnati.

The ancient society of Free Mafons, of which General *WASHINGTON* was a brother, formed their procesſion at the State Houſe, at one o'clock, and moved through the principal ſtreets to Zion Church, in Fourth, above Arch ſtreet, in the following order :

Tyler with drawn Sword,  
Entered apprentices, two and two.  
Fellow Crafts, two and two,  
Maſter Maſons, two and two,  
Deacons with their wands tipt with ſilver.  
Secretary and Treafurer,  
Wardens.  
Paſt Maſters, two and two.  
Maſter.

After the Subordinate Lodges, the Grand Lodge, preceded by Muſic, as follows.

*MUSIC.*

Grand Tyler with drawn Sword,  
Twelve Paſt-Maſters, two and two, bearing wands  
tipt with ſilver.

Grand Sword Bearer, with drawn sword,  
 Grand Secretary with scroll, and Grand  
 Treasurer.

Grand Warden, bearing their Columns.  
 Three lights extinguished, borne by three  
 Past Masters.

Holy Bible, Square and Compass, borne by a  
 Past Master.

Grand Chaplain supported by two Past Masters.

Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master.

Grand pursuivant, with drawn sword.

Four Deacons of the Grand Lodge, two and  
 two, bearing wands tipped with gold.

In the centre of the procession was exhibited a        in honor of *WASHINGTON*, borne by four Past Masters—its base white marble, inscribed on the four corners *WASHINGTON LODGE*, No. 1.—supporting a golden URN, surmounted with an Eagle, with wings expanded, holding in his beak a scroll, in the figure of a heart, with a suitable inscription.

The Grand Lodge preceded by the Urn, entered the church, when an Eulogium was pro-

nounced by the Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D. to a large audience.

Although thousands of spectators assembled upon the occasion, no accident took place; all were anxious to witness the ceremonies of the day—and although all could not be gratified, the arrangements made were such as gave the greatest possible satisfaction—and tended to preserve that harmony, so much wished for, by those who partook of the *last sad tribute of respect paid by a grateful people* to the memory of the man so justly styled the founder of the American empire.

In the evening, Mr. W. C. Peale exhibited at his museum, a transparent painting of the General, as large as life, which excited the attention of a great concourse of spectators.



#### FUNERAL PROCESSION AT NEW-YORK.

ON the 31st of December, 1799, the day appointed by the citizens of New-York, to pay



the most Solemn Funeral Honors to the MEMORY of their beloved Chief and Fellow-Citizen General *GEORGE WASHINGTON*, every kind of business ceased, and every thought was employed in preparation for the melancholy solemnity—the order of which had been announced on the preceding day by the committee of arrangement. The citizens, in their military and civil habiliments, with the foreigners of various nations, all eager to join in testimonies of veneration for the *Great Deceased*, having assembled in their appointed order, the Procession moved under the guidance of Signals, to the mournful sound of minute guns and muffled bells, in the following order:

Officer and

Eight Dragoons.

Sixth regiment, in platoons, by the left, with arms reversed—Colors, drums, &c. in mourning.

The regiment of artillery with eight field pieces, taken from the British army, in the different actions, where General *WASHINGTON* immediately commanded.

Cavalry.

Rifle Company.

Militia Officers.

Officers of the Navy of the United States.

Officers of the Army of the United States.

Adjutant General of the United States and Suite.

Major General Hamilton and Suite.

Citizens.

St. Stephen's Society.

Tammany Society.

*In the following order :*

TAMMANY SOCIETY, OR COLUM-  
BIAN ORDER.

1st. The *Wiskinkie* supporting the Cap of Liberty, veiled in crape.

2d. The *Sagamore* bearing the great standard of the society, covered with black cloth ; on the front the representation of a marble monument founded on a rock. Sixteen pillars supporting a Dome, the centre of which falling inward, rests on thirteen columns within, emblematical of the thirteen original States. The tomb, which contains the mortal part of our great Chieftain, appears through the columns in the centre of the

thirteen. On a circular pedestal on the top of the Dome, is an obelisk, its weight resting on the thirteen inner pillars. On the tablets of the obelisk and round the pedestal are inserted the most remarkable events in the life of the Heroic *WASHINGTON*.—On the reverse of the *great standard*, the arms of the United States incircled with black—the two *masters of ceremonies*, on either side the Sagamore, bearing the silken label (entwined with mourning) on which was written the name of the Order.

3d. The GRAND SACHEM wearing the insignia of his office; on his right the treasurer carrying a Golden Key and string of Wampum, on his left the Secretary with the book of Laws, all decorated with the symbols of mourning.

4th. The father of the council in black, wearing his badge of office, and carrying the Great Calumet of peace, decorated in the most solemn and appropriate manner, agreeable to the aboriginal custom.

5th. The *Thirteen Tribes*—the banners (which

are beautifully painted with the Armorial bearings of the thirteen states) covered with black cloth and ornamented with knots of crape. On the front of each a black marble Urn on a white field, repository of the ashes of the departed heroes and statesmen who were the companions of our *WASHINGTON* in the late glorious and revolutionary war, viz., Warren, Montgomery, Mercer, Franklin, Hancock, Greene, Wooster, Laurens, M'Dougal, Livingston, Putnam, Stuben, Sullivan.

### ORDERS.

1. New-Hampshire Tribe, headed by the warrior, bearing the banner *erect*—the Sachem followed by the body of the tribe four abreast, each *Brother* with the Buck's tail in his hat and crape round his left arm.

2. Massachusetts tribe, in the same order.

3. Rhode-Island tribe, do.

4. Connecticut tribe, do.

5. New-York tribe, do.

6. New-Jersey tribe, do.

7. Pennsylvania tribe, do.

8. Delaware tribe, in the same order.

9. Maryland tribe, do.

10. Virginia tribe, headed by the warrior, bearing the banner *reversed*. (Our beloved *WASHINGTON* being a native of Virginia, and always considered as an honorary member of that tribe.)

11. North Carolina tribe, the banner erect.

12. South Carolina tribe, do.

13. Georgia tribe, do.

6th. The *Scribe of the Council*, carrying the constitution, and supported on the right and left by two of the Alanks in the badges of their office.

Mechanic Society,

Masonic Lodges,

*In the following order :*

The Knights Templars.

The Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge on the state of New-York, in the city of New-York, viz.

1. Lodge L'Union Francaise, No. 14.

The Tyler with a drawn sword, the handle covered with black crape.

The members, two and two.

Secretary and Treadurer.

Past Mafters.

Senior and Junior Wardens.

A Mafter Maſon, carrying the Warrant of the  
Lodge on a black Cuſhion.

Deacon.

Mafter.

Deacon.

The other Lodges in the order above deſcribed.

2. Phœnix Lodge,	No. 11.
3. Trinity Lodge,	10.
4. Howard Lodge,	9.
5. Holland Lodge,	8.
6. Hiram Lodge,	7.
7. St. John's Lodge,	6.
8. St. Andrew's Lodge,	3.
9. Independent Royal Arch Lodge,	2.
10. St. John's Lodge,	1.

Three mafter Maſons, each carrying a ſtandard,  
on which was a pendant of white, bordered with  
black, and written thereupon the Cardinal Virtues  
of Maſonry,

Faith,

Hope,

Charity.

The Reverend Chaplains of the Grand  
Lodge.

Three master Mafons, each carrying a ftandard,  
on which was written the characteriftics of mafonry,

Wifdom,            Strength,            Beauty.

The worfhipful Brother Cadwallader D. Col-  
den, in mourning, in his hand a fhort ftandard,  
with a white pendant, trimmed with black, on  
which was written, *Brother WASHINGTON*—the  
great—the wife—the virtuous; expreffing alfo,  
the figure of an hour glafs run out, and a fickle.

The Grand Tyler, in mourning, carrying a  
fword, the handle covered with crape.

The Grand Secretary, in mourning, carrying  
in his hands an Urn, walking under the Dome  
of a Temple, fupported by five columns on an  
equal fquare; at the circle of the Dome was  
written,

*Temple of Virtue, Seat of Mafonry,*

On the front of that square—"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord,"—On the one side—"They rest from their Labor,"—on the other—"Their works follow them."

The Grand Treasurer, in mourning, holding in one hand, Incense; in the other Flowers.

The Past Grand Officers.

The Senior and Junior Grand Wardens.

The Grand Pursuivant, carrying the Bible, square, and compass, on a black cushion, supported by two Deacons. The Bible carried upon this occasion, was the Bible upon which General *WASHINGTON* took his Oath of Office when first inaugurated as President of the United States.

The Grand Master, or his Deputy, supported by two Deacons.

Manhattan Company.

New-York Insurance Company.

United Insurance Company.



Branch Bank.

Bank of New-York.

Chamber of Commerce.

Marine Society.

Collegians.

Regents of the University.

Trustees of Columbia College.

President and Professors of ditto.

Physicians and Surgeons.

Gentlemen of the Bar.

Civil Officers of the city.

Civil Officers of the state.

Lieutenant Governor.

Civil Officers of the United States.

Government.

His Catholic Majesty's Consul and

Gentlemen of that nation.

His Britannic Majesty's Consul and

Gentlemen of that nation.

Music.

Anacreontic and Philharmonic Societies, in complete mourning—the grand officers bearing wands, decorated with crape—the members wearing their badges with crape and bows of love ribbon.

Clergy, in full drefs, with white Scarfs.

Twenty-four girls, in white robes, with white furplufses and turbans, ftrewing laurels during the Procefsion.

#### Committee of Arrangement.

Cols. GILES,	The Pier. No.	Cols. TROUP,
FISH,		B. LIVINGSTON,
WILLET,		Gens. STEVENS,
MAYOR OF THE CITY.		CLARKSON.

Each Pall-Bearer was accompanied by a member of the Cincinnati in full mourning, with a white crape bow on the left ward arm, and bearing a black Banner, denoting fome important act of the deceafed. The pall bearers

and members of the committee of arrangement, wore the badges of the Cincinnati and black scarfs with white roses on the bows. THE URN, with its attendant decorations, was supported by eight foldiers (with others attending for their relief) upon a BIER in form of a Palanquin, six feet by four. This elegant assemblage of Emblems, consisted of a Funeral URN, three feet in height, of burnished gold, with the name of *WASHINGTON* in black upon the flat-band; behind which, the American Eagle, four feet high, cloud-borne, with extended but drooping wings, appeared to hover over the ashes of the Hero, holding in his beak a laurel wreath; these Figures were supported by a rich pedestal and cornished burnished gold—Underneath was a second pedestal, rising from the Bier, covered with black, on the front and rear of which, the laurel wreath was represented, tied together with the American Stripes, and crowned by the American Constellation, the whole on a ground of Black—The sides were adorned with military trophies, composed of military standards, Cavalry, and Infantry, with the Standards of the Unit-

ed States, and of the society of the Cincinnati. In the centre of the Trophies was represented the Eagle, with the other emblems and mottos of the society, surrounded by branches of laurel—the whole decorated with black drapery, fringed and festooned. This superb and appropriate ornament formed an elegant Mass of thirteen feet in height. The various colors of the floating Standards, mingled with the metallic splendor of the URN, and the mournful solemnity of the surrounding black, formed one Grand Image truly sublime and affecting.

Immediately followed,  
The General's Horse, in Mourning,  
Led by two black Servants, in complete  
mourning, with white Turbans.  
Cincinnati as Chief Mourners,  
and other officers of the late war.  
Corporation of the City.  
Eight Dragoons.  
Officer.

On the arrival of the Procession at Saint Paul's Church, the military halted, and opening

the ranks, made an avenue, through which the Bier and those immediately attendant on it, passed into the church—The troops leaning on their reverse arms.

After the Funeral Oration, and other solemn services of the Temple, their Bier was deposited in the Cemetery, and the last Military Honors performed over it.

The following are the words of Sacred Music performed on the 31st ult. at St. Paul's Church, by the Anacreontic and Philharmonic Societies :

SOLO.

Sons of Columbia, now lament,  
Your spear is broke, your bow's unbent.  
Your glory's fled  
Amongst the dead;  
Your Hero lies  
Ever, forever clos'd his eyes.

CHORUS.

Columbia weep ! weep still in louder moan,  
Your Hero, Patriot, Friend and Father's gone.

*DEAD MARCH.*

## RECITATIVE SOLO.

The body comes ! we'll meet it on the way,  
 With laurels ever green, and branching Palm,  
 Then lay it on his Monument ; hung round  
 With all his trophies and great acts enrolled  
 In Verse Heroic, or sweet lyric song.  
 There shall Columbia's valiant youth resort :  
 And from his memory, inflame their breasts  
 To matchless valor, whilst they sing his praise.

## FEMALE VOICES.

Bring the laurels, bring the bays ;  
 Strew his Hearse, and strew the ways.

*GENERAL CHORUS.*

Glorious Hero, may thy Grave,  
 Peace and honor ever have ;  
 After all thy pains and woes,  
 Rest eternal, sweet repose.

*CONCLUSION.*

Mourn, mourn, Columbians ? mourn in solemn strains,  
 The name of him you lov'd, alone remains !  
 Your hopes in his support, from hence give o'er,  
 Your Hero, Friend, and Father is no more.

## SECOND PART.

*ELEGY.*

How sleep the brave, who sink to rest  
 By all their country's wishes blest ?

By fairy bands, their knell is rung,  
 By forms unseen, their Dirge is sung :  
 There honor comes ! a Pilgrim grey,  
 To bless the turf that wraps their clay ;  
 And Freedom, shall awhile repair,  
 To dwell, a weeping Hermit there.  
 When Spring, with dewy fingers cold,  
 Returns to deck their hallow'd mould ;  
 She there shall dress a sweeter sod,  
 Than fancy's feet have ever trod.

*RECITATIVE SOLO.*

Not vain is all this storm of grief  
 To vent our sorrows, give relief ;  
 But yet, let not Columbia's race,  
 Misfortune with desponding arms embrace.  
 Distracting doubt and desperation,  
 Ill become the chosen nation ;  
 Chosen by the great, I AM,  
 The Lord of Hosts, who still the same,  
 We trust, will give attentive ear,  
 To the sincerity of prayer.

## SONG.

Pious orgies, pious airs,  
 Decent sorrow, decent prayers,  
 Will to the Lord ascend,  
 And move his pity, and regain his love.

*GRAND CHORUS.*

The Lord God Omnipotent reigneth !  
 For the kingdom of this world is become  
 The kingdom of our Lord and Christ,  
 And he shall reign, for ever and ever.

Hallelujah !

*FUNERAL PROCESSION IN BALTIMORE.*

THE first day of the new Century was chosen by the citizens of Baltimore to testify their respect for the memory of the illustrious *WASHINGTON* whose beloved and renowned fame shall survive the revolutions of time, and perish only with the last vestige of human recollection.

At sunrise the artillery at Fort M'Henry saluted with sixteen guns in quick succession, and continued firing each half hour until sunset. The vessels in the harbor hoisted colors at half mast, and the bells of the different churches of the city tolled through the day. A total suspension of business, and the general appearance of every sex, age and condition in mourning presented their deep and universal sorrow for that loss which they were assembled to venerate and deplore.

At nine o'clock the military paraded in Baltimore street, to whom were attached the United



States corps of artillerists and engineers, commanded by captain Morris, under the order of lieutenant Landais.

The bier was received on the right of the line formed in open ranks, with presented arms, the officers, bands and colors saluting, and moved to the left—minute guns firing at a distance.

When it reached the left of the line, the troops formed, wheeled in platoons and marched in the following order till their van had reached the public square at the west end of the city, (the place appointed for performing the funeral honors) the bands playing slow and solemn dirges; the bier, mourners, &c. following the rear of the military—

*Captain Bentalou's Troop,*

In quarter ranks, swords sheathed, standard in deep mourning, trumpeter playing a dead march.

(General Swan's indisposition, prevented his attendance.)

*Captain Shrim's Light Infantry.*

Appointed to perform funeral honors, marching with arms reversed.

*6th regiment, commanded by Major Stodder,*

Marching in platoons, in inverted order, with arms reversed, standards and music in mourning.

*27th regiment, Col. Taylor,*

Marching in platoons, in inverted order, with arms reversed, standards and music in mourning—its band playing Dr. Boyce's dead march, *WASHINGTON'S* march, &c.

*39th regiment, Col. Mosher,*

Marching in platoons, in inverted order, with arms reversed, standards and music in mourning.

*5th regiment, commanded by major Mackenheimer, col. Stricker being appointed commanding officer of the day,*

Marching in platoons, in inverted order, with arms reversed, standards and music in mourning—its band playing the dead march in Saul, &c.

*United States corps of Artillerists and Engineers,*  
With arms reversed and music in mourning.

*Captain Barry's Troop,*  
Swords drawn, standard in mourning.

*Captain Biays's Troop,*  
Swords drawn, standard in mourning.

*Capt. Hollingsworth's Troop,*  
Swords drawn, standard in mourning.

*Staff of the Brigade.*

The General's Horse,

White, with saddle, holsters and pistols, led by  
a private of the corps of artillerists and engineers.

BIER,

Supported by four sergeants of the corps of artillerists and engineers.

Pall Bearers.	{	Cols. ROGERS	}	Capt. MORRIS	Pall Bearers.
		BANKSON		Capt. KILTY	
		RAMSAY		Gen. SMITH.	

The Rev. CLERGY of the city,  
With white scarfs and bands, and black crape roses.

The order of Cincinnati.

Marshall's men, with white  
staves encircled with crape.

The Marshall of the district in deep  
mourning, with a wand covered  
with crape.

Judiciary of the United States.

The state Judiciary.

The Bar, two and two, in deep  
mourning.

The Collector of the customs and the  
surveyor of the port of Baltimore  
in deep mourning.

Marshall's men, with white  
staves encircled with crape.

(The mayor's severe indisposition prevented his  
joining the Procession.)

City Constables, with white staves  
encircled with crape.

President of the second branch of city  
council, and Register.

Members of the second branch of the  
city council four and four.

President of the first branch of city  
council.

Members of the first branch of the city  
council four and four.

Clerks of the two branches.

Door keepers of the branches.

Citizens six abreast.

City Constables, with white staves  
encircled with crape.

When the van of the military reached the public square, the procession halted, the troops formed in line with opened ranks, resting on their arms reversed, and the procession following the bier passed through to the square.

When the bier had arrived at the public square, a most elegant and affecting address was delivered by the Rev. Doctor ALLISON, in nearly the following words :

To die, my sorrowful friends, is the great debt every one by nature owes, and which he must one time or other undoubtedly pay. Among them that are born of women, an exception will not be found. Here the great and the small, the rich and the poor, stand on the same level. No exception can be pleaded, whatever ransom is proposed.—The silver cord must be loosed, the golden bowl must be broken in every instance. Prayers and supplications, tears and intreaties, will not stay the spoiler's hand, or disarm his insatiate rage. Could the prayers and the intreaties of an imploring na-

tion have prevailed, he would not have sheathed his arrow in the pride of our strength, and precipitated the present sad solemnity. O Death, how rich thy victim! how savage the violence of thy triumph, in rending from our wounded hearts their fondest earthly hope! The glory is departed—*WASHINGTON* is gone! United America hears the doleful knell, and bewails the loss in all her borders. As it was among the Hebrews of old, when all Judah and Jerusalem mourned for Josiah, so is it now—it is more, the lamentation is reverberated from every distant shore to which the melancholy tidings extend. *WASHINGTON* is gone! Ah, fatal night in which he fell! Let darkness seize upon it—Let it not be joined unto the days of the year—Let it not come into the number of the months. Lo, let that night be solitary—Let no joyful voice come near it. Such are the effusions of inconsolable grief, in the first transports of pardonable excess—but returning reflection moderates the extreme, and dissuades its continuance. The unchangeable decree of Heaven is, that there shall be no discharge in this war, and surely none may

arraign the high authority. The author of life is likewise the finisher, and shall we say to him—What hast thou done, or why hast thou done this? No. Notwithstanding the anguish of our souls, we bend in submission to the sovereign pleasure of God, who will always perform what is right. We thank him devoutly for having raised up among us this singular man—a benefit to mankind in general—a precious blessing to the people of our own land in particular. We say, the will of the Lord be done—when he removes his mighty spirit to another state; even when he lays the desire of our eyes in the grave, and blends his mortal part with common clay. Hard task, deplorable catastrophe, we confess! When the ear heard him, then it blessed him—When the eye saw him, then it gave witness to him. Now his noble and majestic frame moulders unconscious into kindred dust. He hears not the sighs and groans of his bereaved country, whose happiness lay so near his heart. To him the voice of Fame's sweet trumpet sounds in vain. Yet he *has* heard its loud and pleasing notes reiterated on a thousand occasions, and it

shall be tuned to his praise through every revolving age. But further, the sleeping dust shall awake, for they that are in their graves shall hear the voice of the Son of Man, and shall come forth—O, Death! I will be thy plagues, O, Grave, I will be thy destruction, Repentance shall be hid from mine eyes. Do any of you yet demand why was he taken away—Rather ask, why was he given and continued so long?—the answer will prescribe the considerations proper to be entertained. No period can be mentioned in the long lapse of recorded time, wherein the magnitude of the crisis was so admirably combined with an assemblage of rare and valuable talents demanded by it, which shone in him through the successive stages of a splendid life. Recommended to marked attention in private walks by a manly dignified conduct, public honors gradually crowded round him, till he rose to the highest his country could bestow, and he wore them with distinguished applause. View him in the several characters of legislator and leader, of statesman and warrior—Behold him guiding the complicated operations of a victorious army,



conducting the civil administration of a powerful nation, descending voluntarily from the most elevated sphere to beloved retirement, and afterwards promptly submitting to an inferior station with patriotic humility. Contemplate him in these different and diversified relations—proclaim him great in all.

But I travel beyond my present limits—neither the season nor the place, nor the circumstances permit me to enlarge. I mean not here to detail his services and to delineate his virtues, for which a particular day is appointed, and to which the arduous attempt is properly adjourned—I only add, what my intention is to repeat then—Should a remembrance of our grand national transactions reach an approaching world, and reflections on them share in its exalted employments—those services and those virtues, now consigned to the perishable records of time, will survive the last flame, and live in the annals of eternity.

Captain Shrim's company of light infantry

then fired twice and with a precision that was never exceeded.

The procession, civil and military, after this returned through Fayette and Howard-streets, and down Baltimore-street, until the right of the military touched Christ church, when they halted, formed in line with open ranks and arms reversed, and the bier (with the procession following it) passed through to the church, where it was deposited and a funeral service adapted with great propriety to the mournful occasion, was performed by the Rev. Mr. BEND, as follows:

The bier was introduced into the church with the following sentence from scripture: "I am the resurrection and the life: He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

A mournful air was then played on the organ, after which an anthem selected from the

39th and 90th psalms was read and a lesson, taken from 1 Cor. xv. v. 20.

The lesson being concluded, the following hymn was sung by several gentlemen, accompanied by the organ :

1. HERE, what the Voice from Heav'n declares

To those in Christ who die !

“Releas'd from all their earthly Cares,

“They reign with him on high.”

2. Then, why lament departed Friends,

Or shake at Death's Alarms ?

Death's but the Servant Jesus sends

To call us to his Arms.

3. If Sin be pardon'd, we're secure,

Death hath no Sting beside;

The Law gave Sin its Strength and Pow'r;

But Christ, our Ransom, died !

4. The Graves of all his Saints be blest'd,

When in the Grave he lay;

And rising thence their Hopes he rais'd

To everlasting Day !

5. Then, joyfully, while Life we have,

To Christ, our life, we'll sing—

“Where is thy Victory, O Grave ?

“And where, O Death, thy Sting ?

After the hymn, the following prayers were addrested to the throne of grace :

Almighty God, who hast stamped the greatest uncertainty on the duration of the human existence, exempting not from thy decree the most virtuous and valuable of the children of men, grant to us consolation and support under all the adverse and sorrowful dispensations of thy providence. We confess our manifold sins and transgressions committed against thee ; yet, O Lord God most holy, O God most mighty, who, for these our sins, are justly displeased, blot them forever out of the records of heaven, and deliver us not into the bitter pains of eternal death. While we mourn the dissolution of those whom we love, enable us to cherish the hope of rejoining them in the regions of bliss ; and graciously grant, that, in our last hour, no pains of death may cause us to swerve from thee ; but that we may be able to welcome our dissolution, as the passage to thy glorious and blessed presence. Grant this, O Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Amen.

Almighty God, with whom do live the spirits of those, who depart hence in the Lord, and with whom the souls of the faithful, after they are delivered from the burden of the flesh, are in joy and felicity; we give thee hearty thanks for the good examples of all those thy servants, who, having finished their course in faith, do now rest from their labors—and we particularly praise and magnify thy holy name, for the very illustrious and edifying example, afforded us in the life and actions of thy deceased servant, for whose loss we this day solemnly testify our deep and heartfelt sorrow. Grant, merciful father, that his bright virtues, his memorable deeds and important services may live in the hearts and minds of all the inhabitants of our land, and of their latest and most remote posterity. May they always remember with affectionate gratitude the great civil and political blessings which thou hast conferred upon them through him, thy chosen instrument, and may each strive, as far as opportunity may be presented him, to imitate his glorious and admirable conduct. Give to us all courage to brave, like him, the most grievous fatigues, the most

distressful hardships, the most imminent perils, and even death itself, when our beloved country may require our exertions; and let neither menaces terrify, nor promises seduce us from the discharge of our duty. Like him may all relinquish, with generous promptitude, the most beloved scenes of domestic enjoyment, when called to discharge a public function; and he, who hath filled the highest station to which his country can raise him, cheerfully consent to act in a subordinate capacity. Like him may statesmen discern with wisdom the true interests of the people, and with unyielding firmness, pursue it, and magistrates exercise their authority for the protection and benefit of those committed to their care for the true and impartial administration of justice, for the punishment of wickedness and vice, for the maintenance of thy true religion and virtue. And may all of us, whatever may be the character or relation which we may sustain, strive to emulate his excellent qualities—and we beseech thee, O Lord, that we, with our deceased friend and benefactor, and all others, who are departed in the true faith of thy holy name, may

have our perfect consummation and bliss, both in body and soul, in thy eternal and everlasting glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Most merciful God, who hast, in thy deep and unfearchable wisdom, grievously afflicted our country, in removing from it its most valuable and beloved citizen, and at a time, when his long tried talents and valuable services were again necessary to thy people, we acknowledge the justice of thy mournful dispensation, as far as it affects our national interests. But, O Lord, in the midst of judgment, remember mercy. Suffer us not to become a prey to those, who wish us evil; but so direct their councils, and dispose their hearts that they may sincerely endeavor to cultivate towards us the relations of amity and peace. Unite in the bonds of harmony all the inhabitants of the land; and may their principal contest be, who shall most promote the good of their country! Fire their hearts with a disinterested love for her, and heroic firmness in her cause; that shouldst thou ever again permit the desolating sword to be drawn in our land, we may

never want a WASHINGTON to guide us with his councils, and to lead us to victory. Behold with thy favor thy servant the President of the United States, both the houses of Congress, and all others vested with authority—so replenish them with the grace of thy holy spirit, that they may always incline to thy will, and walk in thy way. Grant them in health and prosperity, long to live: may all things be so ordered and settled, by their endeavors, upon the best and surest foundations, that peace and happiness, truth and justice, religion and piety, may be established among us for all generations! In this manner alleviate unto us, O Lord, the irreparable loss which we have suffered, and to thy name be glory and praise for ever, through Jesus Christ thy son. Amen.

O merciful God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the resurrection and the life, and who hath taught us by his holy apostle St. Paul, not to be sorry, as men without hope, for those who sleep in him, we praise and adore thy name for the comfort, which, under our great national loss, we are enabled to draw from the cha-



rafter of the departed father of his country, and friend of mankind. May we all, while we drop the tear and heave the sigh of sorrow, call to mind the great share of bliss which he enjoyed below, the universal esteem and affection which were his portion, the exemplary tenor of his life, the shortness of his last sufferings, and the glory and felicity, to the fruition of which he hath been translated, and may the power of thy grace triumph over the weakness of our nature, and our sorrow for our own loss be swallowed up of spiritual joy, for his final triumph and exaltation. Be particularly gracious unto his venerable relict, late the partner of his joys and cares.—Sorely, O Lord, hast thou afflicted her; but grant that she may not, on this trying occasion, be forsaken by the consolations of that blessed religion, which she so eminently adorns, but may enjoy them in a high degree. Preserve her from evil, spiritual and temporal; crown her with thy loving kindness; and when her great and solemn hour shall come, and wing her mystic flight to other worlds, grant her, O Father, to behold with him the light of thy reconciled countenance. And may all present be

found in the last day, acceptable in thy fight, and receive that blessing, which thy well beloved Son shall then pronounce to all who love and fear thee, saying, Come, ye blessed children of my Father, receive the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world. These things we beg for Jesus Christ's sake, our Mediator and Redeemer.

The minister then pronounced the following passages of scripture: "I heard a voice from Heaven saying unto me, write from henceforth blessed are the dead who die in the Lord: even so saith the spirit, for they rest from their labors, and their works do follow them."

"The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen."

The ceremonies being concluded, the bier was taken out of the church, amidst solemn music, performed upon the organ accompanied by the 5th regiment's band, when captain Shrim's company of light infantry performed the last military honors, by firing over it with their accustomed accuracy.

After which the military marched to their respective rendezvous grounds and dismissed.

The citizens assembled then retired to their respective homes.

During the whole time of the procession, captain Brown's company of artillery formed at the head of Baltimore street, fired minute guns.

The appearance of the military did them great honor, and it is to be regretted that the necessary arrangements prevented them from going into the church. It is supposed there were at the least fourteen hundred men under arms. There were near five thousand in the procession; and it is probable there appeared in Baltimore-street, at one time, not less than twenty thousand souls. A number of gentlemen from the county and distant parts of the state attended and joined in the procession, anxious to express their veneration for him, who once great and good, is now no more—"The man of the age"—"the first in war, the first in peace, and the first in the hearts of his country."

*At a meeting of the Masters, Wardens and Representatives of the several Lodges of this city, held at Concordia Lodge Room, on Wednesday, the 18th inst.*

IT was resolved, that a tribute of the highest respect in their power to evince should be paid to the memory of their deceased Brother General WASHINGTON.—For this purpose it was determined that a procession should be made from WASHINGTON Lodge Room, Fell's Point, on Sunday next, at 11 o'clock A. M.

A committee was then nominated to carry into effect this laudable intention. The said committee recommend that all the members of constituted Lodges should attend punctually at the hour and place above mentioned, from whence they are to proceed, according to seniority, in the usual mode, under the direction of the grand Marshal. The committee take this opportunity most earnestly to invite every regular Mason in the city, to join their brethren, for

a purpose which must awaken the feelings of every heart possessed of a spark of sensibility. Such Masons will be received as visitors and take their station accordingly. The committee considering the great uncertainty of the weather, recommend, that, if it prove unfavorable, those who reside in town, should proceed in stages which will in that case attend.—It is expected that the Brethren appear in white aprons and gloves, with crape round their arms and hats. At the time of meeting, information will be given of a proper place where a Brother will deliver an oration suitable to the solemn occasion.

HAMILTON GRAHAM,  
Secretary pro. tem.

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*MONDAY, December 23.*

According to previous notice the members of the MASONIC INSTITUTION, in the city of Baltimore, met yesterday at *WASHINGTON* Lodge-Room, No. 3, Fell's Point, from whence, at

about half past 11 o'clock, they proceeded in solemn procession, (the gentlemen of the Volunteer Band, attached to the 27th regiment, attending, who performed several dirges, suitable to the occasion) to the Presbyterian Meeting-house, where an excellent Oration, calculated to impress on the minds of the auditors, a lasting sense of the virtues of their deceased Friend and Brother General *GEORGE WASHINGTON*, was delivered by a member of the *Amicable* Lodge, No. 25.

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By the GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

December 17, 1799.

TO give the people a public opportunity of regretting the irreparable loss which their country hath sustained by the DEATH of General *GEORGE WASHINGTON*,

Resolved *unanimously*, That a message from the legislature be communicated to the governor, requesting him to appoint, by proclamation, a

day of mourning, humiliation and prayer, throughout this state, and to recommend it to the citizens thereof to assemble in their respective places of worship, to testify, in the most public manner, their veneration for his memory, and to derive, from the just eulogiums of his meritorious services, the best motives for the imitation of his virtues.

The General Assembly of Maryland feeling the most undissembled sorrow for the irreparable loss of the illustrious *WASHINGTON*, and anxious to pay every tribute of respect to the memory of the departed friend to his country, do resolve unanimously, That there be immediately furnished a scarf and hatband for the governor, the president of the senate, and each of the attending members of the senate, the speaker, and each of the attending members of the house of delegates, and members of the council, each of the officers and clerks attached to the senate and house of delegates, the chancellor, and such of the judges of the general court, and all other officers of the state and general governments as

are now in the city of Annapolis, to be worn during the session as the external mark of their unfeigned grief.

W. HARWOOD, *Cl. Ho. Del.*

A. VAN-HORN, *Cl. Sen.*



BY HIS EXCELLENCY

BENJAMIN OGLE, Esq.

GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND.



## A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS the legislature of this state, penetrated with regret for the death of the illustrious patriot, general *GEORGE WASHINGTON*, and zealous to express their high respect and veneration for his eminent virtues and distinguished services to his country, have, by a resolution



unanimously assented to on the seventeenth instant, requested me “to appoint, by a proclamation, a day of mourning, humiliation and prayer throughout this state, and to recommend it to the citizens thereof to assemble in their respective places of worship, to testify in the most public manner, their veneration for his memory ; and to derive, from the just eulogiums of his meritorious services, the best motives for the imitation of his virtues.”

And whereas I entirely accord with the honorable legislature in the measure proposed, and am anxious to co-operate with them in paying this last tribute of grateful respect to the merits and long tried patriotism of our deceased fellow citizen, I have therefore thought proper to recommend and advise, and do hereby recommend and advise accordingly, that the TWENTY-SECOND DAY OF FEBRUARY NEXT, be observed throughout this state, as a day of mourning, humiliation and prayer for the deceased ; that the citizens on that day, go into mourning, and abstaining, as far as may be, from their secular oc-

cupations, devote the time to the sacred duties of religion; that they call to mind the virtues, public services and unshaken patriotism of the deceased, and admiring, endeavor to imitate them; that they implore the most high God to supply his loss, by inspiring them with a love of true liberty and pure religion, and by dispensing the blessings of peace and knowledge throughout the land; and that he would grant to the people of this, and the United States, that the wisdom and virtues of a WASHINGTON may never cease to influence and direct our public councils.

Given in the council chamber, at the city of Annapolis, under the seal of the state of Maryland, this eighteenth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine.

BENJAMIN OGLE.

By the governor,

NINIAN PINKNEY,

Clerk of the governor and council.

## VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.

IN THE SENATE.

*WEDNESDAY, December 18.*

THE speaker informed the house he had received a paper published in Alexandria, called the "Times," announcing the death of General *WASHINGTON*; whereupon on the motion of Mr. Taylor,

*It was unanimously resolved,* That the members of this house, will in testimony of the most sincere esteem for the illustrious character of their late fellow citizen *GEORGE WASHINGTON*, go into mourning, by wearing on the left arm a scarf of black crape, during the remainder of the session.

And in further testimony of respect, the house, without proceeding to any other business adjourned till to-morrow twelve o'clock.

Yesterday his excellency James Monroe, Esq., qualified as governor of this commonwealth for one year. As soon as a board of the members of the executive council was convened, we are told that,

The Governor observed that resolutions had unanimously passed both branches of the legislature of the commonwealth agreeing to wear a badge of mourning for the loss of our illustrious and beloved fellow citizen, *GEORGE WASHINGTON*; and proposed to the members, that they should follow the example. To which proposition, they agreed *unanimously*.



*FUNERAL PROCESSION IN ALEXANDRIA.*



THE XXII OF FEBRUARY.

AMERICA'S Jubilee, is passed—and the day of gladness is now clothed in mourning, for

him who we most loved and delighted to honor. Though the day of mirth has been transformed into a day of sorrow, it afforded one elevating consideration to the citizens of Alexandria—that they should once more publicly manifest their grief for the loss and respect for the memory of their illustrious neighbor General GEORGE WASHINGTON.

The morning of “the day of mourning” was announced by a discharge of 16 rounds by captain Harper’s company of artillery and a procession was formed in King-street, precisely at 11 o’clock (from a signal gun) by colonel Deneale who was appointed to marshal the procession, which was in the following order :

Officer of dragoons four paces in front,  
sword drawn.

Eight dragoons dismounted, two abreast, swords  
drawn.

16 Misses from 9 to 12 years old, with white veils and scarfs trimmed with black, and linked together with garlands of ever-green, two abreast.

Major William Johnston, an old continental officer, who served with reputation during the revolutionary war, and who dismissed at the conclusion thereof, the last of the Virginia line, bearing a stand of colors of the 11th Virginia regiment, which was used in the war and preserved by him, and produced on this solemn occasion.

16 Boys in complete uniform of blue and buff, from 7 to 9 years old, each having an infantry cap, with a motto in letters of gold, in front *WASHINGTON our model*—and an esponton shouldered—marching by files.

Captain Simms's company of Silver Greys,  
by platoons.

Orator of the day and clergy.

Children of the free-school supported by the bounty of the illustrious deceased, clothed in a new suit of mourning (at the expence of the corporation) two abreast, headed by their teacher.

The high sheriff of the county, and justices of the peace, the sheriff bearing a white staff.

The mayor, aldermen, and common councilmen of Alexandria, preceded by the fergeant with a staff.

The gentlemen of the Bar.

The president and directors of the Potomac company.

The officers and brethren of Lodge No. 22, with their regalia properly shrouded.

The officers and Brethren of Lodge No. 27.  
Band of Music.

Militia officers of the county of Fairfax, belonging to the 60th regiment—by sections.

The uniform companies of the 106 regiment in order—by sections.

Captains and mates of vessels, two abreast, bearing two globes, a chart, ship completely rigged, Quadrants, Log, Reel, &c. &c.

Mechanics of the Town.

Taylors with a flag emblematic of the profession, borne by Mr. John Longdon, who has fol-

lowed his profession for upwards of 30 years, and who served as a dragoon in the revolutionary war.

### Citizens four abreast.

After the line was formed, captain Simms's company of Silver Greys were sent for major Johnson and his stand of colors; they approached the line on the left, and passed in review to their station in the line, when the whole were wheeled to the right, and marched down King-street, up Royal-street, through Cameron-street, and down Fairfax-street to the Presbyterian church, which had been previously handsomely dressed in mourning, and which, for the present occasion, was additionally ornamented in the following manner:

On the front of the pulpit was affixed in gold a large W.

The rostrum, which accommodated the Orator, three officiating Clergymen, the Master and Wardens of Lodge No. 22, was raised in front of the pulpit, and covered with black. Two large



arches were raised on the East and West galleries, and handsomely ornamented with evergreen, on the key stones of each appeared in gold the letter W.—Under the arches, on the side, were arranged the ladies dressed in white, with white veils and scarfs, wreaths, &c., who obligingly assisted in the musical part of the ceremony; and under those on the opposite side were arranged the 16 misses, as described in the order of the procession their wreaths hanging in festoons in front of the gallery. In their rear appeared the 16 little boys in uniform before mentioned. On the front of the East, South and West gallery was suspended a portrait of the illustrious *WASHINGTON*, with the following inscriptions annexed to each of them.

EAST SIDE.

“The ornament, Example, and defence  
of our Nation.

SOUTH.

“First in War—first in Peace—first in the hearts  
of his Countrymen.

WEST.

Millions unborn shall venerate thy name, and call  
thee Saviour of their country.

The service of the day commenced, with an anthem accompanied by instrumental music, after which the Rev. Mr. Davis, delivered a prayer calculated to lead the devotions of the audience to that God, whose beneficence had bestowed and so long continued the invaluable life of our now lamented, and ever to be remembered *WASHINGTON*—Vocal and instrumental Music.—A narrative of the honors usually paid to the memory of distinguished characters, by the Rev. Mr. Muir—Music and Anthem.—Eulogy by Doctor Dick; Music and Anthem. The Throne of Grace was addressed in an affectionate prayer, by the Rev. Mr. Moffit—Instrumental Music.

Major Johnson advancing the stand of colours, the little boys saluted them, uttering the words “Hail Sacred Relict,” after which they were presented to the 16 young misses, in rotation, who ornamented them with their wreaths, pronouncing at the same time the following appropriate sentences :

1. Thus we offer our tribute to the memory  
of *WASHINGTON*.

2. The Daughters of America shall long lament thy loss.
3. He was acceptable as the return of Spring.
4. He was ornamental as the flowers of Summer.
5. He was beneficial as the fruits of Autumn.
6. He was terrible to oppressors as the storms of Winter.
7. *WASHINGTON* was a stately oak.
8. *WASHINGTON* as a Sun illuminated the Western Hemisphere.
9. The Sun set, and gloom o'erspread the land.
10. *WASHINGTON* sleeps with his fathers.
11. Let the willow shade his grave.
12. Let the grass mantle it.
13. Let the fragrant herb perfume.
14. Let the birds of the wood serenade it.
15. Let human voice chant a melancholy dirge.
16. Let the sons of Columbia emulate the character of *WASHINGTON*.

The procession returned from the Meeting

house, in the same order to King-street, where the whole were dismissed, except the military, who were formed with a piece of artillery on the right and left, and captain Simpson's company of Dragoons on the right of the whole, where they fired 16 rounds, each, by divisions and platoons, with military exactness.

## O D E S

*By the Ladies who assisted in the musical part of the ceremonies.*

Come, Sisters, of the tuneful train,  
 In numbers sad and slow,  
 Now swell the melancholy strain  
 In notes attun'd to woe :

As chief, immerf'd in grief profound,  
 Melpomene appear,  
 And bid the melting, plaintive sound  
 Assail the list'ning ear.  
 No cheerful theme our thoughts pursue,  
 No hopes our minds accost,  
 A gloom of sorrow veil our view,  
 For Nature's Treasure's lost !

With strains of anguish let thy band  
 Arrest Creation's ear :  
 Let distant worlds, at thy command,  
 Now shed the mournful tear.

\* \*

\*

'Lorn Genius of a weeping land !  
 Your Freeman, in one fun'ral band,  
 With grief each feeling bosom torn,  
 Confess a *WASHINGTON* you mourn.

Illustrious Chief! thy natal day  
 No more awakes, the festive lay;  
 No more the viol's joyous sound  
 Excites to mirth's fantastic round.

See! 'mid empyrean spheres of light,  
 The Hero from his heav'nly height  
 Our streaming agonies appease,  
 And bid our vain lamenting cease.

To him, whose wife and dauntless soul,  
 Could the world's wayward fate controul;  
 To him, let glory's altar blaze,  
 To him, the soaring anthem raise.

\* \*

\*

"Slowly strike the solemn bell;  
 Nature, sound thy deepest knell—  
 Pow'r of Music! touch the heart,  
 Nature there will do her part.  
 God of melancholy, come,  
 Penfive o'er the Hero's tomb;  
 In saddest strains his loss deplore,  
 With piercing cries rend ev'ry shore,  
 For *WASHINGTON'S* no more!

Glory, bring thy fairest wreath,  
 Place it on thy Hero's urn :  
 Mercy, in soft accents breathe,  
 He ne'er made this bosom mourn,  
 God of Melancholy, &c.

Hold not back the sacred tear,  
 Give to him a sigh sincere,  
 Sorrow ! our grateful hearts preys deep ;  
 Angels may joy, but Man must weep.  
 God of Melancholy, &c."

\* \*

\* \*

"How happy he, who sinks to rest,  
 By all regretted, lov'd and blest.  
 For him the Orphan's pray'r shall rise  
 And waft his spirit to the skies.

To deck his grave shall Virtue bring  
 The earliest tribute of the Spring ;  
 Whilst in our hearts we'll raise a tomb,  
 Round which immortal wreaths shall bloom.

Peace to his soul ! the fatal hour is past,  
 And silence o'er him has her mantle cast.  
 His deeds, his virtues, are enroll'd by Fame ;  
 Nor shall oblivion ever shroud his name.

Whilst the sad train, in soft and solemn lays  
 Dwells on his merit and records his praise ;  
 Let the full chord to yon blue arch arise,  
 Our *WASHINGTON'S* translated to the skies !

Illustrious shade! accept these artle's lays,  
The Muse this tribute to thy mem'ry pays.  
No more to thee by mortal can be given,  
Much honor'd shade—the rest is left to Heaven.

Oh! to thy country oft direct a ray  
Of guardian light, from thy celestial day  
Inspire her Statesmen, and instruct her Youth  
To follow thee in Innocence and Truth."



Alexandria, February 24.

*Doctor Eliza Cullen Dick.*

Sir,

The Committee appointed to make arrangements for the 22d of February, take pleasure in expressing to you the entire approbation of the Eulogy pronounced by you, on our late illustrious Neighbor and Fellow Citizen, which they are well assured gave general satisfaction to your Fellow

Citizens; and they request your permission to have it published.

We are,  
Very respectfully,  
Your obed't serv'ts,

WILLIAM FITZHUGH,  
CHARLES SIMMS,  
JAMES MUIR,  
THOMAS MARSHAL,  
GEORGE DENEALE,  
JONATHAN SWIFT.

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GENTLEMEN,

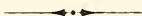
The approbation which you have been pleased to express, of the Eulogy pronounced by me, on our late illustrious Neighbor, and the assurances you entertain of the general satisfaction of the audience, afford me ample testimony of the good wishes of my Fellow Citizens, and produce in my mind the most lively and appropriate impressions.



Without considering it as possessing any intrinsic title to publicity, I feel bound to comply with your request, and send you a copy for publication.

I am, Gentlemen,  
With great respect,  
Your obed't serv't,

ELISHA C. DICK.



*O R A T I O N.*

In attempting to execute the part assigned me by your committee, on this sorrowful occasion, I rise with a confidence in your indulgence, upon which I rest an only hope, that my humble efforts may be found in any degree commensurate with your most moderate expectations.

The people of America are this day assembled in multitudes, to mingle in grief, and to express to the world in one united voice, the cause of their afflictions :—to cherish the recollection of

departed worth ; and to evince to distant nations, that they are grateful to a benefactor.

If there be an animating thought, while yet the tear of sorrow hangs upon the cheek, may it not be drawn from an imaginary view of that most interesting picture, which America would at this moment exhibit, were it possible to be comprised within the scope of vision ?

Four millions of the human race, free in their thoughts and affections—unrestrained in their actions, widely dispersed over an extensive portion of the habitable globe, are seen devoted to a single purpose ;—A people detached by local causes—actuated in common life by opposite views, or rivals in the pursuit of similar objects ; —jealous in all other matters of general concern—are offering the tribute of affection to the memory of their common friend. In vain shall we examine the records of antiquity for its parallel. Worth so transcendent as to merit universal homage, with a correspondent desire to bestow it, mark an event in the history of our country, that

may be considered as a phenomenon in the annals of man.

The institution of games, the denomination of cities and empires, the erection of monuments of marble and bronze, have severally served to perpetuate the memory of illustrious characters; but how often may the parentage of their celebrity be traced to either a single accident, or to a fortuitous combination of circumstances. To which of the Sages, Patriots, or Heroes of past ages, shall we recur for an example of that uncommon assemblage of virtues and talents that were blended in the character of our beloved *WASHINGTON*? Be it the privilege of posterity, when it shall desire to honor unusual merit, by comparative commendation, to employ his name as a term of superlative applause; but let us no longer mutilate his well earned fame, by looking back to antiquity for his model. His early manifestation of extraordinary capacity—his uniform preference of the public good to private enjoyment—his unwearied labours in the service of his country, for upwards of forty years, de-

servedly place him on the highest point of human exaltation.

Pre-eminence in social life, is more frequently the effect of exertion than of unusual talents ; and most men might have been wiser and better than they are, had improvement at all times been their fixed purpose : but the individual whom a beneficent Providence selected, as his favorite instrument to dispense the blessings of political life and liberty to his country, seemed peculiarly fitted for that resplendent commission, by the munificent hand of nature. Presages of his future eminence were to be drawn from his earliest life. While yet at school, his deportment was such as to procure him the confidence and respect of his young companions : He was the common arbiter of their juvenile disputations, and his decisions were conclusive and satisfactory.

Possessing a mind peculiarly collected in its structure, elevated in its views, and firm in its purposes, he saw at once the importance of intellectual ascendancy, and soon acquired the absolute dominion of himself.—Endowments so

rare and inestimable drew him early into general view, and attracted the notice of the constituted authorities. At the age of twenty-one years, bearing a major's commission in the provincial forces, he is selected by the Colonial executive of Virginia, for the performance of a critical and momentous embassy to the French commander on the Ohio. He engages in the perilous and responsible enterprise. Undaunted by the chill blasts of winter—undismayed by a view of the pathless wild that lay before him, he takes his departure from Williamsburg, and moves on with unshaken purpose to his point of destination. Having produced his credentials and remonstrated ineffectually against the incursions of the French, we see him on his return, environed by imminent and complicated dangers, from which the providential hand of Heaven alone can extricate him. He has already escaped the murderously meditated volley of the savage in ambush—he is now contending with the elements. Embarked with his few attendants on a hastily constructed raft, the impetuosity of the torrent, with assailing bodies of ice, bear him along their

turbulent course, and threaten inevitable destruction. The youthful hero, opposing his utmost strength to the wayward current, is plunged into its icy bosom. For a moment he is invisible, and his disconsolate companions deplore the loss of their leader ;—But he rises again, and buffet- ing the angry surface of the flood, recovers the raft, which is arrested in its progress by an inflated cluster of rocks. The night approaches and patiently to wait the return of day is a point of necessity. Disconsolate and drear the abode, but more terrible the surrounding prospect. The intense severity of the weather in recompense for his sufferings presented in the morning an animated spectacle. The ice locked and firm, enables him to proceed in safety to the destined shore, and he pursues without further impediment his homeward way.

The extraordinary capacity, first exemplified in the prosecution of this inaugural mission, was afterwards more amply displayed on the Banks of Monongahela.—On that occasion, the several important properties essential to military com-

mand, were manifested in the preservation of the remnant of a vanquished army. A youth untutored in the schools of war—by the peculiar strength, and ingenuity of his own mind, effected an achievement, that would have given additional lustre to the fame of a distinguished veteran.

An eventful page in the book of fate, was yet undisclosed. An era approached when the hero of Monongahela, was to be introduced to an admiring world ;—A memorable epoch, that was at once to give existence to one of the most extensive empires on earth, and to stamp a brilliant immortality on the individual, who was chosen by Heaven to execute its mighty mandate. The American colonies, the legitimate offspring of Britain, feel the hand that should foster, become oppressive and severe. They venture but affectionately to complain.—The parent rebukes, urges submission, imposes with augmented rigor and threatens coercion. Petitions and respectful expostulations are tried ineffectually. In pacific, but in more dignified terms, they now remon-

strate.—They appeal to reason, to justice and truth. Parental displeasure is kindling into wrath and revenge. They view at a distance the gathering storm and prepare to encounter it. Dreadful the impending conflict and incalculable the issue; but the price of victory is inestimable. A sense of common injury, common danger, and common interest, inspire union and energy. They collect their little army, untried, undisciplined. In the hands of their beloved *WASHINGTON*, they at the same moment deposit the chief command and their hopes of success.—Pledged to himself, his fellow citizens and to his God, he accepts the sacred trust, and determines to give liberty to his country, or perish in the enterprise. Thus prepared and thus headed, making a solemn appeal to the inhabitants of the earth, they implore the Almighty aid, and enter upon the unequal and terrible combat.

It is unnecessary to our present purpose to trace minutely the chain of succeeding incidents. The issue at once gave birth to our wide spreading empire, and crowned the hero with wreaths



of immortal glory. Gazing nations passing in wonder from the magnificent work to its author, are unsettled as to their chief point of admiration; while Columbia, growing with celestial rapture, greets with boundless gratitude and affection her favorite Son.

The Saviour of his country, disbanding his martial ranks, tenders his sage advice to his fellow citizens, bestows a benediction on his companions in arms, and retires to the calm retreat of private life.

Smiling peace resumes her gentle reign. Agriculture and commerce, reviving from their bed of anguish, lead on in triumph to the altar of liberty, their long train of national blessings. A plan for the preservation of the altar, and the equitable distribution of its blessings, requires the aid of the aggregate wisdom of the United States. Amidst this brilliant assemblage, this constellation of enlightened minds, the father of his people again appears and shines supremely refulgent. Restraining by his harmonizing pre-

fence, the discordant operation of social interests, tempering the ardor of discussion, and holding up to view the balance of relative rights, he saw their united labors terminate in the production of a system or general government, which, receiving the sanction of his approbation, became the palladium of the national independence.

Once more, in obedience to the united suffrage of his country, he foregoes the enjoyment of domestic scenes, and accepts the superintendency of the great and mighty concerns of the empire. Events arise in the course of his administration that call forth fresh demonstrations of his superior wisdom.

The existing relations between America and the two great contending nations of Europe, necessarily placed the former in a situation peculiarly hazardous and embarrassing. Devotees in the cause of republicanism, it was impossible for its citizens to become unconcerned spectators of the eventful contest. Lively impressions of gratitude still remained for the magnanimous suc-

cors formerly received from one of the powers, which naturally inspired a warm interest in the issue of the war, and had a strong tendency to draw them ultimately within its destructive vortex. But the vigilant guardian of his country's safety, by basing his position on the broad and commanding ground of neutrality, most effectually securing our peace, our honor, and our independence.

After eight successive years, in the autumn of his life, exclusively devoted to the national interest, he is permitted to repose a while his venerable head on the pillow of domestic ease; and but a little while is his repose free from interruption. The establishment of a military force is deemed necessary for the public safety, and the laureled veteran is solicited, and agrees to take the provisional command. But the fleeting and variegated scenes of his probationary existence were drawing to a close. The inauspicious gloom which had excited the apprehension of America having, in a great measure, disappeared—the *soul of this great and good man took its final departure to the mansions of eternal rest.*

To his survivors, in the unexampled tenor of his actions, he has bequeathed a legacy of inestimable value. In the walks of private life, he was no less exemplary than in the more conspicuous scenes of public employment. His private friendship terminated only with his latest breath. Modest and unassuming, yet dignified in his manners—accessible and communicative; yet superior to familiarity, he inspired and preserved the love and respect of all who knew him. For the promotion of all public and useful undertaking, he was singularly munificent. The indigent and distressed, were at all times subjects of his sympathy and concern. His charity flowed in quiet but constant streams, from a fountain that was at no time suffered to sustain the smallest diminution. No pursuit or avocation, however momentous, was permitted to interrupt his systematic attention to the children of want. His anxious solicitude on this score is pathetically exemplified in a letter written in 1775, at a time when the unorganized state of the army might have demanded his exclusive concern. Addressing himself to the late Lund Washington,

he writes—" Let the hospitality of the house be  
" kept with respect to the poor. Let no one go  
" away hungry. If any of this kind of people  
" should be in want of corn, supply their necessities,  
" provided it does not encourage them in  
" idleness. I have no objection to your giving  
" my money in charity, when you think it will  
" be well bestowed. I mean that it is my desire,  
" that it should be done. You are to consider  
" that neither myself nor my wife are now in the  
" way to do these good offices."

Such, my fellow citizens, was the man whose memory we have assembled to honor. It has been your peculiar felicity often to have seen him on the footing of social intimacy. That the inhabitants of Alexandria, held a distinguished place in his affection, you have had repeated testimony. You have seen his sensibility awakened, on occasions calculated to call forth a display of his partiality. The last time we met to offer our salutations, and express our inviolable attachment to the venerable sage, on his retiring from the chief Magistracy of the Union, you may

remember that in telling you how peculiarly grateful were your expressions, the visible emotions of his great soul, had almost deprived him of the power of utterance.

But heaven has reclaimed its treasure, and America has lost its first of patriots and best of men—its shield in war; in peace its brightest ornament, the avenger of its wrongs, the oracle of its wisdom and the mirror of its perfection. His fair fame, secure in its immortality, shall shine thro' countless ages with undiminished lustre. It shall be the statesman's polar-star, the hero's destiny; the boast of age; the companion of maturity, and the goal of youth. It shall be the last national office of hoary dotage, to teach the infant that hangs on his trembling knee, to lip the name of *WASHINGTON*.

NATCHES, February 21, 1800.

LINES BY DOCTOR G. PFEIFFER.

*Sacred to the memory of the late and much lamented General  
GEORGE WASHINGTON, to be sung at the Chapel,  
on this day.*

I.

HAIL fainted spirit of unrivall'd worth!  
Hail glorious chieftain, who gave to freedom birth!  
How did the Heavens with joyful peals resound,  
When thy death tidings, roll'd the spheres around!

II.

But ah! How diff'rent is the scene below,  
Where loss of thee, has fill'd each heart with woe!  
Ye muses, all your choicest incense bring,  
And round his hallow'd tomb, soft, dirges sing.

III.

Daughters of Heav'n fair freedom's genius weep;  
And at his shrine, unceasing vigils keep—  
Let distant ages learn his matchless fame,  
And unborn millions venerate his name.

*PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.*

MR. SHAW, secretary to the President, communicated the following message :

*Gentlemen of the Senate,  
and of the house of Representatives,*

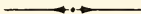
IN compliance with the request in one of the resolutions of Congress of the 21st of December last, I transmitted a copy of those resolutions by my secretary, Mr. Shaw, to Mrs. *WASHINGTON*, assuring her of the profound respect Congress will ever bear to her person and character ; of their condolence in the late afflicting dispensation of Providence, and intreating her assent to the interment of the remains of General *GEORGE WASHINGTON*, in the manner expressed in the first resolution.—As the sentiments of that virtuous lady, not less beloved by this nation than she is at present afflicted, can never be so well expressed as in her own words ; I transmit to Congress her original letter.



It would be an attempt of too much delicacy to make any comments upon it; but there can be no doubt, that the nation at large, as well as all the branches of the government, will be highly gratified by any arrangement which may diminish the sacrifice she makes of her individual feelings.

JOHN ADAMS.

*United States, Jan. 8, 1800.*



*MRS. WASHINGTON'S LETTER.*

*Mount-Vernon, Dec. 31, 1799.*

SIR,

WHILE I feel with keenest anguish, the late dispensation of Divine Providence, I cannot be insensible to the mournful tributes of respect and veneration, which are paid to the memory of my dear deceased husband; and, as his best services and most anxious wishes, were always devoted to the welfare and happiness of his country, to know that they were truly appreciated, and

gratefully remembered, affords no inconsiderable consolation.

Taught by the great example, which I have so long had before me, never to oppose my private wishes to the public will, I must consent to the request made by Congress, which you have had the goodness to transmit me, and in doing this, I need not, I cannot say, what a sacrifice of individual feeling I make to a sense of public duty.

With grateful acknowledgment, and unfeigned thanks for the personal respect, and evidences of condolence, expressed by Congress and yourself,

I remain very respectfully,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

And humble servant,

MARTHA WASHINGTON.

## N O T I C E

TAKEN OF

Gen. George Washington,

IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF EUROPE, &amp;c.



PARIS, February 11.

## ORDER OF THE DAY.\*

*For the consular guard, and all the troops of the  
Republic.*

WASHINGTON is no more. That great man fought against tyranny. He firmly established the liberty of his country. His memory will be ever dear to the French people, as it must be to every friend of freedom in the two worlds, and especially to the French soldiers,

\* *Washington's birth day.*

who like him and the Americans, bravely fight for Liberty and Equality.

The first consul in consequence orders, that for ten days black crapes shall be suspended to all the standards and flags of the Republic.

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*FUNERAL ORATION ON WASHINGTON, delivered in the temple of Mars, by Louis Fortanes, the 20th Feb.*

FRANCE, unbiassed by those narrow prejudices which exist between nations, and admiring virtue wherever it be found, decrees this tribute of respect to the manes of *WASHINGTON*. At this moment she contributes to the discharge of a debt due by two nations. No government, whatever form it bears, or whatever opinion it holds, can refuse its respect to this great father of liberty. The people who so lately stigmatized *WASHINGTON* as a rebel, regard even the enfran-

chisement of America, as one of those events consecrated by history and by past ages. Such is the veneration excited by great characters. The American revolution, the contemporary of our own, is fixed forever. *WASHINGTON* began it with energy, and finished it with moderation—He knew how to maintain it, pursuing always the prosperity of his country; and this aim alone can justify at the tribunal of the Most High, enterprises so extraordinary.

To speak the eulogy of the hero of America, requires the sublimest eloquence of the first of orators. I reflect with sentiments of admiration, that this temple, ornamented with the trophies of valor, was raised up in an age of genius, an age which produced as many great writers as illustrious commanders. Then, the memory of heroes was entrusted to orators whose genius gave immortality. Now, glory shines with lustre [*eclat*]; and in every country the glory of the fine arts is shrouded in darkness. My voice is too feeble to be heard on an occasion so solemn and momentous, and so new to me. But as that

voice is pure ; as it has never flattered any species of tyranny ; it has never been rendered unworthy of celebrating heroism and virtue.

Nevertheless, these funeral and military honors will speak to all hearts ; it needs not the aid of speech, to raise strong and undescrivable emotions. The mourning which the first consul orders for *WASHINGTON* declares to France that *WASHINGTON* example is not lost. It is less for the illustrious general, than for the benefactor and the friend of a great people, that the crape of mourning now covers our banners and the uniform of our warriors. Neither do we prepare that unmeaning pomp, so contrary to policy and humanity, in which insult is offered to humanity, contempt to venerable ruins, and calumny to the tomb. Every exalted idea, every useful truth, is seen in this assembly. I speak before warriors, the honorable praises of a warrior firm in adversity, modest in victory, and humane in every stage of fortune. Before the ministers of the French republic, I speak the praises of a man whom ambition never swayed, and whose every

care tended to the welfare of his country ; a man who unlike others have changed empires, lived in peace in his native land ; that land which he had freed, and in which he had held the highest rank ; and died as a simple individual.

An affecting piece associates the shade of Franklin with the eulogy of *WASHINGTON*, and recalls to mind the amiable virtues of that sage, so celebrated in France, whom posterity will regard as the brother of the hero of America.

In that piece, the orator finds tints of a finer hue, to paint the virtues of the hero.

“ *WASHINGTON*, says he, offers examples not less worthy of imitation. Amidst all the disorder of camps ; amidst all the excesses inseparable from a civil war, humanity took refuge in his tent, and was never repulsed. In triumph and in defeat, he was always as tranquil as wisdom, as simple as virtue. The finer feelings of the heart never abandoned him, even in those moments when his own interest would seem to justify a recurrence to the

laws of vengeance. This I call thee to attest, O youthful Aſgill ! thou whoſe misfortunes have intereſted England, France, and America ! With what aſſiduous care did *WASHINGTON* endeavor to delay a ſentence which the laws of war would have precipitated ! He expected that a voice, then all powerful, would have been heard acroſs the expansive ocean, and demanded a pardon which could not be refuſed. That voice, ſo conformable to the feelings of his heart, was heard and felt ; and the day which ſaved an innocent victim ought to be inſcribed among the moſt glorious of victorious and independent America.”

Here the author ſeems to elevate himſelf, or rather to ſoar with the great men, whoſe neceſſary courſe and inevitable deſtiny he ſo admirably deſcribes.

“It is theſe extraordinary men who appear at intervals on this vaſt ſcene, with characters commanding and illuſtrious. An unknown and ſuperior cauſe ſends them when it is fit, to lay the foundations of new, or to build up the ruins



of old empires. It is in vain that these men step aside, or mingle in the crowd: destiny leads them on; they are carried from obstacle to obstacle, from triumph to triumph, until they arrive at the summit of power. Something supernatural animates all their thoughts: an irresistible movement is given to all their enterprises. The multitude still seeking them among themselves, and find them not: they raise their eyes, and see in a sphere, dazzling with light and glory, those whom their ignorance and envy would call rash. *WASHINGTON* had not those high and commanding traits which strike every mind: he displayed more order and justice, than force and elevation in his ideas. He possessed above all, in a superior degree, that quality which some call vulgar, but which very few possess; that quality not less useful to the government of states than to the conduct of life, and which gives more tranquility than emotion to the soul, and more happiness than glory to those who possess it:—it is of good sense that I speak.”—“Audacity destroys, Genius elevates, good sense preserves and perfects. Genius is charged with

the glory of empires; but good sense alone assures their safety and repose."

So many interests are here united with the pleasure of once more finding French eloquence, that we are sure of the attention of our audience, by multiplying quotations.

"His end portrayed all the domestic virtues—as his life had been an illustrious example in war and politics. America regarded with respect the mansion which contained her defender: from that retreat, where so much glory dwelt, sage counsels issued, which had not less weight than in the days of his power; but death has swept all away; he died in the midst of those occupations which sweeten domestic life, and support us in the infirmities of age.

"From every part of that America which he has delivered, the cry of grief is heard. It belonged to France to echo back the mournful sound; it ought to vibrate on every generous heart. The shade of *WASHINGTON*, on entering

beneath this lofty dome, will find a Turenne, a Catinat, a Conde, all of whom have fixed their habitation here. If these illustrious warriors have not served in the same cause during life, yet the fame of all will unite them in death. Opinions subject to the caprices of the world and to time; opinions, weak and changeable, the inheritance of humanity, vanish in the tomb: but glory and virtue live forever. When departed from this stage, the great men of every age and of every place, become, in some measure, compatriots and cotemporaries—They form but one family in the memory of the living; and their examples are renewed in every successive age. Thus, within these walls, the valor of *WASHINGTON* attracts the regard of Conde; his modesty is applauded by Turenne; his philosophy draws him to the bosom of Catinat; a people who admit the ancient dogma of a transmigration of souls, will often confess that the soul of Catinat dwells in the bosom of *WASHINGTON*.

“The voice of Republicanism, which resounds from every part of these walls, ought to

please, above all, the defenders of America. Can they not love those soldiers who after their example, repelled the enemies of their country? We approach with pleasure those veterans, whose trophies add lustre to these walls, and some of whom have gained laurels with *WASHINGTON*, in the wilds of Carolina and Virginia.

\* “But there is something more due to the memory of *WASHINGTON*; it is the union of France and America; it is the happiness of each; it is Peace between the two nations. It now seems to me, that *WASHINGTON* calls to all France, from the very summit of his dome—“Magnanimous People!—you who know so well how to honor glory, I have conquered for independence; the happiness of my country was the reward of that victory. Imitate not the first half of my life; it is the second that recommends me to posterity.

“Yes, thy councils shall be heard, O *WASHINGTON*! O Warrior! O Legislator! O Citizen, without reproach. He who *while yet young*,

surpasses thee in battles, shall, like thee, with his triumphant hands, heal the wounds of his country. Even now we have his disposition, his character, for the pledge: and his warlike genius, unfortunately necessary, shall soon lead sweet peace into this temple of war: then the sentiment of universal joy shall obliterate the remembrance of oppression and injustice.—Already the oppressed forget their ills, in looking to the future. The acclamations of every age will be offered to the hero who gives happiness to France, and seeks to restore it in the contending world.



AMSTERDAM, March 23.

“AMIDST the homage in Europe, paid to the memory of the illustrious *WASHINGTON*, that by the society, known by the name of *Felix Meritis* (an association of friends to the arts and sciences, established in this city) holds a distinguished rank.” The following are the most prominent traits:

On Friday, the 22d of March, this respectable society, paid its tribute of respect to the manes of that venerable man, by a funeral ceremonial, accompanied with the most expressive emblems of respect and affliction.

At the bottom of the hall stood a tomb in the form of an obelisk, with the bust of *WASHINGTON*, on one side the emblem of the society crowned him with laurels; on the opposite, the genius of humanity in tears, bewailing his loss; in front of the monument was seen the following inscription: *This society honors the merits of so great a man, whose death humanity deplores.*"

The majestic ceremony commenced by a discourse delivered by Mr. I. Kinker, a celebrated advocate of this city, introductory to the funeral ceremonial; this was followed by a solemn hymn, composed by R. I. Uilenbrack, and set to plaintive music, adapted to the melancholy occasion, by Mr. B. Ruloffs—after which Mr. Kinker pronounced an elegy, replete with sentiments worthy of the subject, and with that

eloquent sensibility that did equal honor to the hero and legislator, the object thereof, and to its learned author. All the Americans present in the city attended on the occasion. The ceremonial terminated by an analogous discourse, delivered by Mr. Bourne, consul general of the United States of America, in the following terms:—

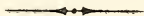
Citizens of the American nation present, it is with emotions of the most lively sensibility, that I have been witness to the distinguished marks of homage that this respectable society have paid the great, the illustrious *WASHINGTON*, the model of patriotism, the father of his country, and the ornament of his age. If America alone can boast of having given birth to him, other nations are jealous of the glory of rendering to him the eulogium due to his genius and talents, and to mingle their regrets with those of a grateful people, who so afflictive lament his death. Such testimonials of regret speak the unfeigned language of the heart—the true eloquence of the soul.

Such is the noble triumph of virtue, and the sweet reward of a life devoted to the happiness of mankind—Such is the effect of that moral electricity, that it animates every liberal and enlightened mind, and gives new force to the bonds of social order, uniting, by a principle of fraternal sympathy, nations, that oceans would in vain divide. This solemn and august ceremony recalls to mind a series of events that will be dear to the citizens of the United States—they will see in it, a new and interesting token of friendship on the part of the Batavian nation, which can never be effaced as long as the name of *WASHINGTON* shall be remembered in America, and the eclat of his character admired in the world—And when the weeping cyprus that over-shades his venerable manes shall be reduced to dust, and when not a single vestige shall remain of the proud marble that now ornaments his tomb, he will still live in the affections of a generous and grateful people, and his memory will be cherished by every friend to freedom and virtue.

Penetrated by your attention on the occa-



sion, as memorable in the annals of history, as afflicting to humanity, I offer you, in the name of my fellow-citizens, the tribute of our grateful acknowledgment, and most ardent wishes for your happiness—May the termination of the eighteenth century, so fertile in important events, at once give peace to Europe, close the wounds of a long and destructive war, and again open to the Batavian nation those fruitful sources of commerce and general prosperity, which in the hands of an intelligent, industrious and moral people, exceed all calculation.”



## E U L O G I U M

*Delivered before the AMERICAN OFFICERS and SAILORS  
in the port of London, on the character and virtues  
of our deceased WASHINGTON.*

THE officers and sailors of the American ships in the port of London, yesterday paid a just respect to the memory of their deceased friend

General *WASHINGTON*, by attending at St. John's Church, Wapping, in naval mourning. We dare not record his death without attempting to pronounce his panegyric. This mournful office is both our duty and our inclination; but we confess, that we feel our powers oppressed into fluggishness by the sense of its difficulty. To build up goodly phrases into rhetorical periods, and attach to the name of *WASHINGTON* all splendid generalities of praise, were indeed an easy task. But such vague declamation, at all times an unworthy offering to the memory of the departed, is peculiarly inappropriate to the sober and definite greatness of his character. Tranquil and firm he moved with one pace in one path, and neither vaulted or tottered.—He possessed from his earliest years that prophetic consciousness of his future being, which both makes and marks the few great men of the world, who combine a deep sense of internal power, with imaginations capable of bodying forth lofty undertakings. His feelings, constitutionally profound and vehement, (and which, if uncounteracted by the majesty of his views, would have been wild and

ferocious) gave him a perpetual energy; while the necessity of counteracting and curbing these feelings gradually disciplined his soul to that austere self-command, which informed and moulded the whole man, his actions, his countenance, his every gesture. Thus, sympathizing inwardly with man, as an ideal, not with men as companions, he perfected in himself that character, which all are compelled to feel, though few are capable of analysing, the character of a commanding genius. His successes, therefore, great in themselves, and sublime in the effects which followed them, were still greater, still more sublime, from the means by which they were attained. It may be affirmed, with truth, that if fortune and felicity of accident were to resume from his successes all which they had contributed, more would remain to him than perhaps to any man equally celebrated; his successes were but the outward and visible language of that which had pre-existed in his mind. But this character and these praises others have approached or attained, who, great in the detail of their conduct for the purposes of personal ambition, had subdued and fettered their feeble passions,

only to become more entirely the slaves of a darker and more pernicious influence. In *WASHINGTON* this principle and habit of self subjugation never degenerated into a mere instrument ; it possessed itself of his whole nature ; he ripened his intellectual into moral greatness, intensely energetic yet perseveringly innocent, his hope, the happiness of mankind ; and God, and his own conscience, his end ! Hence among a people eminently querulous and already impregnated with the germs of discordant parties, he directed the executive power firmly and unostentatiously. He had no vain conceit of being himself all ; and did those things only which he only could do.

And finally he retired, his country half reluctant yet proud in the testimony which her constitution and liberty received from his retirement. He became entirely the husband and the master of his family : and the lines which Santeul composed for the statue of the great Conde in the gardens of Chantilly were yet more

applicable to the father and hero of the American Republic.

Quem modo palleban fugitives fluctibus amnes

Terribilem bello, nunc docta per otia princeps

Pacis amans, leatos dat in hostes ludere fontes.

*WASHINGTON* thought, felt, and acted in and for his age and country; the same temperance presided over his opinions as his actions. He sympathised with the moral and religious feelings of the great mass of his fellow-citizens, and was that sincerely, which others assuming politically, have betrayed hypocrisy, when they meant to have exhibited condescending greatness. He neither rushed before his age and country, nor yet attempted to under-act himself; his actions, from the least to the greatest, he inspired with one high and sacred charm, by being always in earnest! Posterity will adjudge to him the title of Great, with more sound and heart-felt suffrage, because he appeared no greater.

*The following elegantly drawn character, of General WASHINGTON, was published in London, Jan. 24, 1800.*

THE melancholy account of the death of General *WASHINGTON*, was brought by a vessel from Baltimore, which has arrived off Dover.

General *WASHINGTON*, was, we believe, in his 68th year. The height of his person was about five feet eleven; his chest full; and his limbs, though rather slender, well shaped and muscular. His head was small, in which respect he resembled the make of a great number of his countrymen. His eyes were of a light grey color; and, in proportion to the length of his face, his nose was long. Mr. Stewart, the eminent portrait painter, used to say, there were features in his face totally different from what he had observed in that of any other human being, the sockets of the eyes, for instance, were larger than what he ever met with before, and the upper part of his nose broader.—All his features, he observed,

were indicative of the strongest passions; yet, like Socrates, his judgment and great self-command have always made him appear a man of a different cast in the eyes of the world. He always spoke with great diffidence, and sometimes hesitated for a word; but it was always to find one particularly well adapted to his meaning. His language was manly and expressive. At levee, his discourse with strangers turned principally upon the subject of America; and if they had been through any remarkable places, his conversation was free and particularly interesting, for he was intimately acquainted with every part of the country. He was much more open and free in his behaviour at levee than in private, and in the company of ladies still more so than when solely with men.

Few persons ever found themselves for the first time in the presence of general *WASHINGTON*, without being impressed with a certain degree of veneration and awe; nor did those emotions subside on a closer acquaintance; on the contrary, his person and deportment were such as

rather tended to augment them. The hard service he had seen, the important and laborious offices he had filled, gave a kind of austerity to his countenance, and a reserve to his manners: yet he was the kindest husband, the most humane master, the steadiest friend.

The whole range of history does not present to our view a character upon which we can dwell with such entire and unmixed admiration. The long life of General *WASHINGTON* is not stained by a single blot. He was indeed a man of such rare endowments, and such fortunate temperament, that every action he performed was equally exempted from the charge of vice or weakness.—Whatever he said or did, or wrote, was stamped with a striking or peculiar propriety. His qualities were so happily blended, and so nicely harmonised, that the result was a great and perfect whole. The powers of his mind, and the dispositions, of his heart, were admirably suited to each other. It was a union of the most consummate prudence with the most perfect moderation. His views, though large and liberal, were



never extravagant: his virtues, though comprehensive and beneficent, were discriminating, judicious and practical.

Yet his character, though regular and uniform, possessed none of the littleness which may sometimes belong to these descriptions of men. It formed a majestic pile, the effect of which was not impaired, but improved by order and symmetry. There was nothing in it to dazzle by wildness, and surprise by eccentricity. It was of a higher species of moral beauty. It contained every thing great and elevated, but it had no false and tinsel ornament. It was not the model cried by the fashion and circumstance: its excellence was adapted to the true and just moral taste, incapable of change from the varying accidents of manners, of opinions and times.—General *WASHINGTON* is not the idol of a day, but the hero of ages!

Placed in circumstances of the most trying difficulty at the commencement of the American contest, he accepted that situation which was pre-

eminent in danger and responsibility. His perseverance overcome every obstacle; his moderation conciliated every opposition; his genius supplied every resource; his enlarged view could plan, revise, and improve every branch of civil and military operation. He had the superior courage which can act or forbear to act, as true policy dictates, careless of the reproaches of ignorance either in power or out of power. He knew how to conquer by waiting, in spite of obloquy, for the moment of victory; and he merited true praise by despising undeserved censure. In the most arduous moments of the contest, his prudent firmness proved the salvation of the cause which he supported.

His conduct was, on all occasions, guided by the most pure disinterestedness. Far superior to low and groveling motives, he seemed even to be uninfluenced by that ambition, which has justly been called the instinct of great souls. He acted ever as if his country's welfare, and that alone, was the moving spring. His excellent mind needed not even the stimulus of ambition,

or the prospect of fame. Glory was but a secondary consideration. He performed great actions, he persevered in a course of laborious utility, with an equanimity that neither sought distinction, nor was flattered by it. His reward was in the consciousness of his own rectitude, and in the success of his patriotic efforts.

As his elevation to the chief power was the unbiassed choice of his countrymen, his exercise of it was agreeable to the purity of its origin. As he had neither solicited nor usurped dominion, he had neither to contend with the opposition of rivals, nor the revenge of enemies. As his authority was undisputed, so it required no jealous precautions, no rigorous severity. His government was mild and gentle; it was beneficent and liberal; it was wise and just. His prudent administration consolidated and enlarged the dominion of an infant republic. In voluntarily resigning the magistracy which he had filled with such distinguished honor, he enjoyed the unequalled satisfaction of leaving to the state he

had contributed to establish, the fruits of his wisdom and the example of his virtues.

It is some consolation, amidst the violence of ambition and the criminal thirst of power, of which so many instances occur around us, to find a character whom it is honorable to admire, and virtuous to imitate. A Conqueror, for the freedom of his country! A legislator for its security! A magistrate, for its happiness! His glories were never sullied by those excesses into which the highest qualities are apt to degenerate. With the greatest virtues he was exempt from the corresponding vices. He was a man in whom the elements were so mixed that "Nature might have stood up to all the world" and owned him as her work. His fame, bounded by no country, will be confined to no age. The character of General *WASHINGTON*, which his contemporaries regret and admire, will be transmitted to posterity; and the memory of his virtues, while patriotism and virtue are held sacred among men, will remain undiminished.

## T R I B U T E

*TO THE MEMORY OF GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON,  
AMONG OUR CITIZENS ABROAD.*

ON the 14th of January the intelligence respecting the death of general *WASHINGTON* reached the Havanna. The grief occasioned thereby was most strongly evinced. Mr. Morton, our consul at that city, immediately issued an address to the Americans; suggesting the public evidences to be given of their sorrow on the mournful occasion. The numerous vessels in the harbor (about one hundred sail) were directed to suspend their flags half-mast high for three successive days; and the citizens to wear crape on their left arms, both things which were instantly and universally complied with.

The United States sloop of war *Norfolk*, captain Bainbridge, then in harbor, the private armed ships, *Superior*, captain Cunningham, *Good Friends*, captain Earl, brig *Liberty*, captain Henderson, with several others discharged minute guns throughout the day.

The consul also communicated the intelligence by letter to the Spanish governor (the marquis de Somervellos) who returned a polite and condoling answer, declaring the sympathetic interest he took therein, with every admirer of those "exalted virtues and patriotism" of which the world was bereaved in the loss of our illustrious citizen.

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*PORT-REPUBLICAN, January 9th, 1800.*

*To the commanders of the American vessels in this port.*

Having a confirmation of the melancholy news of the death of General *GEORGE WASHINGTON*, you are hereby desired as a testimony of respect to his memory, and an evidence of the deep regret we all as American citizens must feel at the loss of so great and good a man, to hoist your flags half mast for three days successively. It is also requested that those vessels that are armed will commence after twelve o'clock, dis-

charging minute guns in rotation—Setting aside for a moment how peculiarly endeared his character is to every American, and the estimation it is held in by all the world, his being commander in chief of the armies of the United States, demands this attention being paid to his memory. All the citizens of the United States that are now here will wear black crape on their left arm for three days.

### ROBERT RITCHIE.

This recommendation as soon as issued was promptly executed; upon a given signal all the American vessels in the harbor displayed their flags half mast; and at 12 o'clock, the snow Charlotte of Baltimore, captain Moaffet commenced discharging minute guns, proclaiming afar the melancholy tidings. This vessel was followed by the schooner Adventure, captain Deveraux, of Philadelphia, and several others; all the American citizens appeared with crape on their arms and every testimony of regret was exhibited at the loss of the beloved and illustrious *WASHINGTON*.

ST. JAGO DE CUBA, *January 22, 1800.*

On the 15th we received at this city the awful and distressing account, of the death of that friend of mankind—the great—the good—*GEORGE WASHINGTON.*—The Americans in port wear crape for 13 days, during which time the American flag is raised half mast. On the first day of mourning, two American vessels in port, fired in the morning, at noon and in the evening 13 minute guns. Many respectable strangers here, requested permission and join us in the solemn tribute of respect—Reflections the most serious, seem to have taken possession of every countenance—In a gloomy silence, each inhabitant appeared enveloped—In a fearful gloom the whole city seem to set, inshrouded.

JOSIAH BLAKELEY,

*Consul of the United States.*

*B. Lincoln, Esq.*



## FUGITIVE PIECES.

## MR. FOX'S EULOGY.

**D**URING the Revolutionary War, it may easily be imagined, that to applaud General *WASHINGTON*, or any of his compatriots, was not permitted in the British dominions—After the peace of 1783, his conduct received the open and almost unanimous approbation of all parties and classes of men—but, in 1789, when the French Revolution commenced, the English Rulers again discouraged all opinions favorable to Liberty, particularly those respecting *America*, which they considered as the parent, or source, of those political tenets which have since become so hateful to the Monarchs of Europe—and, when the French nation chose another form of government, every person approving of Republicanism, or its principles, was deemed guilty of treason, and punished either with imprisonment or banishment. It was then that Mr. Fox, with that

open, undisguised candor, which characterises all his opinions and actions, had the courage to avow his sentiments being decidedly in favor of the French Revolution, and, in the House of Commons, in the year 1794, to pronounce the following elegant eulogium on the *American Patriot* :

———“ Illustrious Man !—deriving honors from the splendor of his situation, than from the dignity of his mind, before whom all borrowed Greatness sinks into insignificance !—I cannot, indeed, help admiring the wisdom and the fortune of this *Great Man*—Not by the expression Fortune, I mean to derogate from his merit ; but notwithstanding his extraordinary talents and exalted integrity, it must be considered as singularly fortunate, that he should have experienced a lot which so seldom falls to the portion of humanity, and have passed through such a variety of scenes without stain and without reproach !—It must indeed create astonishment, that, placed in circumstances so critical, and filling, for a series of time, a station so conspicuous, his character

should never once have been called in question—that he should in no one instance have been accused either of peevish insolence, or of mean submission, in his transactions with foreign Nations—It has been reserved for Him to run the race of glory, without experiencing the smallest interruption to the brilliancy of his career!—The breath of Censure has not dared to impeach the purity of his conduct, nor the eye of Envy to raise its malignant glance to the elevation of his virtue—Such has been the transcendant merit and the unparalleled fate of this illustrious Man!—

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A classical writer, in a late paper, speaking of general *WASHINGTON*, says, he united in his character, “the intrepidity of Aristides, the patriotism of Cato, the military pendency of Cæsar, and the humanity of Scipio. He was to the American Republic what Themistocles and Solon were to the Grecian States; what Numa and Camillus were to the Roman Commonwealth.”

*The following beautiful Poem was written by Doctor Aiken, an Englishman, residing in England—to celebrate the virtues of the Republican Sage and Hero of America.*

*To HIS EXCELLENCY GEORGE WASHINGTON,  
President of the United States of America.*

POINT of that Pyramid, whose solid base  
Refts firmly founded on a Nation's trust,  
Which, while the gorgeous palace sinks in dust,  
Shall stand sublime, and fill its ample space :

*Elected* Chief of Freemen !—Greater far  
Than kings, whose glittering parts are fix'd by birth ;  
Nam'd by thy Country's voice for long-try'd worth,  
Her crown in peace, as once her shield in war !

Deign, WASHINGTON, to hear a *British* lyre,  
That ardent greets thee with applauive lays,  
And to the *Patriot Hero* homage pays.  
O, would the Muse immortal strains inspire,  
That high beyond all Greek and Roman fame,  
Might soar to times unborn, thy purer, nobler Name !

At the entertainment given at Amsterdam  
a few years since, the portrait of our beloved  
WASHINGTON was exhibited as the chief decoration

of the room.—When his health was drank, a Batavian rising up, in his native language made the following apostrophe ; which an American gentleman present, requested might be translated—That gentleman has handed us a copy, which we here present:—“ See here a true likeness of a great and gallant Hero : Approach with due respect, oh !—Human friend, and read in this republican, a Cato in council ; a Caesar in the field ; a second Solon, in his country’s cause ; a Hercules in the political tempest ; a compliant Farmer, when olive branches blossom ; the scourge and admiration of proud Albion—A hero who fought tremendous ; but who knew by his care, to prevent the spilling of human blood—Columbia’s bulwark, an unclouded Sun : a Mars, who by his knowledge and courage, liberated a fourth part of the globe—the best friend to Virtue, the *Great WASHINGTON !*

*(The following from the pen of the "LAT PREACHER," is couched in words so energetic and expressive, that among the different tributes paid to the memory of WASHINGTON, this deserves particular notice.)*

"It is an occurrence not less interesting than extraordinary, that the departure of a single man should command the unaffected and indiscriminate lamentation of five millions of people. It is an event the like of which the world has never witnessed ; that the death of an individual should so touch an whole nation, that " the joy of the heart should cease, and the dance be turned into mourning."

"The mighty monarch, whose throne is furrounded by armies numerous as the locusts of summer, and resistless as the blasts of pestilence, goes down to the tomb amid the execrations of oppressed subjects ; or steps in the grave, as unheeded, as when slumbering on his bed of down. The prince, whose beneficence has whitened the

plains of his country "walks the way of nature," and his subjects "mourn in black," but "not in blood," because they fear "an *Amurab* succeeds." The pomp and power of royalty may cause "monuments to go about the streets," and sorrow may so "royally appear," that thousands will "put the fashion on," and yet none wear it in the heart."

Most eminently, hath the "crown fallen from our head." Most emphatically, are "the tents of Cushan in affliction."—"The father to his children will make known" the mournful story. The veteran, who fought by his side "in the heat and burden of the day" of our deliverance will know, that "for this the heart is faint," that "for these things the eyes are dim." The extensive nation which has received liberty from the valor, and happiness from the counsel, of him who has fallen, will feel that this is "the rod of anger and the staff of indignation."

"His deeds exceed all speech." His fame is "written with a pen of iron, with the point of

a diamond." His counsel is "graven on the table of our hearts." His deeds, his fame and counsel, will endure till "the great globe itself; yea, all which it inherit, shall dissolve."

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*PORTRAIT OF GENERAL WASHINGTON,  
BY MARQUIS CHASTELLEUX.*

The marquis having arrived at General *WASHINGTON'S* head quarters, was introduced to the American Cincinnatus, of whom he speaks in the following elegant and animated language:

..... Here would be the proper place to give the portrait of General *WASHINGTON*; but what can my testimony add to the idea already formed of him? The continent of North-America, from Boston to Charleston, is a great volume, every page of which presents his eulogium. I know, that having had the opportunity of a near inspection, and of closely observing him, some more particular details may be expected



from me; but the strongest characteristic of this respectable man, is the perfect union which reigns between the physical and moral qualities which compose the individual: one alone will enable you to judge of all the rest. If you are presented with medals of Caesar, of Trajan, or Alexander, on examining their features, you will still be led to ask what was their stature, and the form of their persons: but if you discover, in a heap of ruins, the head or the limb of an antique Apollo, be not curious about the other parts, but rest assured that they all were conformable to those of a God.

Let not this comparison be attributed to enthusiasm! It is not my intention to exaggerate; I wish only to express the impression General *WASHINGTON* has left on my mind—the idea of a perfect whole, which cannot be the product of enthusiasm, which rather would reject it, since the effect of proportion is to diminish the idea of greatness.

Brave without temerity—laborious without

ambition—generous without prodigality—noble without pride—virtuous without severity—he seems always to have confined himself within those limits, where the virtues, by clothing themselves in more lively, but more changeable and doubtful colors, may be mistaken for faults.—This is the seventh year that he has commanded the army, and that he has obeyed the congress. More need not be said, especially in America, where they know how to appreciate all the merit contained in this simple act. Let it be repeated that Conde was intrepid, Turenne prudent, Eugene adroit, and Catinet disinterested. It is not thus that *WASHINGTON* will be characterised. It will be said of him, at the end of a long civil war, he had nothing with which he could reproach himself. If any thing can be more marvellous than such a character, it is the unanimity of the public suffrages in his favour. Soldier, magistrate, people, all love and admire him; all speak of him in terms of tenderness and veneration. Does there then exist a virtue capable of restraining the injustice of mankind; or, are glory and happiness too recently established in America, for envy to have deigned to pass the seas?

In speaking of this perfect whole, of which General *WASHINGTON* furnishes the idea, I have not excluded exterior form. His stature is noble and lofty; he is well made and exactly proportioned; his physiognomy mild and agreeable, but such as renders it impossible to speak particularly of any of his features, so that in quitting him, you have only the recollection of a fine face. He has neither a grave nor a familiar air; his brow is sometimes marked with thought, but never with inquietude. Inspiring respect, he inspires confidence, and his smile is always the smile of benevolence.

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*ANECDOTES OF GENERAL WASHINGTON,*  
*WRITTEN IN 1788.*

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*FROM* BRISSOT'S TRAVELS *IN* NORTH  
AMERICA.

THE moment I arrived at Alexandria, I

was eager to repair to Mount Vernon, a beautiful feat of General *WASHINGTON*, situated ten miles lower down the river.—On the road to it we pass through a great deal of wood; and after having mounted two hills, we discover the house, elegant, though simple, and of a pleasing aspect. Before it is a neat lawn: on one side stables for horses and cattle: on the other a green-house, and buildings where the negroes work. In a kind of yard are perceived ducks, geese, turkeys, and other poultry. The house commands a view of the Potowmac, and enjoys a most beautiful prospect. On the side towards that river it has a large and lofty portico. The plan of the house is well-conceived and convenient. Without, it is covered with a kind of varnish, a cement that renders it almost impenetrable by the rain. It was evening when the General arrived, fatigued by a tour through a part of his estate, where he was tracing out a road. You have frequently heard him compared to Cincinnatus: the comparison is just. The celebrated general is now more than a good farmer, constantly employed in the management of his farm, in improving his

lands, and in building barns. He shewed me one not yet finished. It is a vast pile, about a hundred feet long, and still more in width, designed as a store-house for his corn, potatoes, turnips, &c. Around it are constructed stables for all his cattle, his horses, his asses, the breed of which, unknown in this country, he is endeavouring to increase. The plan of the building is so judiciously contrived, that a man may quickly fill the racks with hay or potatoes without the least danger. The General informed me, that he had built it after a plan sent him by the celebrated English husbandman, Arthur Young, but which he had considerably improved. This building is of brick made on the spot; and every part of it, except the joists of the roof, and the shingles that cover it, which for want of time he was forced to buy, is the produce of the estate. He told me, that it did not cost him above three hundred pounds. In France it would have cost upwards of 80,000 livres (3,333l. sterling.) That year he had planted seven hundred bushels of potatoes. All this was quite new to Virginia, where there are neither barns nor provisions for cattle.

His horses, his asses, his mules, were wandering in the neighboring pastures. He told us, that it was his intention to set his country the example of cultivating artificial meadows, so rare in it, yet so necessary, as in winter the cattle are frequently in want of fodder. He had a noble stallion, which will keep up the breed of good horses in the country, and showed us two fine asses from Malta and Spain.

His three hundred negroes were distributed in log houses scattered over the estate, which in that part contains upwards of ten thousand acres.

Colonel Humphrys, the poet, of whom I have already spoken, and who lives with him in the quality of his secretary, assured me, that his possessions in different places, consisted of more than two hundred thousand acres.

The General had invited over from England a good English farmer, with his family, and placed him at the head of his husbandry.

Every thing in the General's house is simple.

His table is well supplied, but without ostentation. Mrs. Washington superintends every thing, and, with the qualities of an excellent farmer's wife, unites that simple dignity which ought to distinguish a woman whose husband has filled the greatest station. To these she adds also that sweetness, and that attention to strangers, which renders hospitality so agreeable. The same virtues are possessed by her engaging niece, whose health, unhappily, appears to be very delicate.

You have heard me blame Mr. Chastelleux for having displayed so much within the portrait he has given of the General. An artful portrait of an artless man is totally out of the character. The General's goodness beams in his eyes. They have no longer that fire which his officers found in them when at the head of his army; but they brighten in conversation. In his countenance there are no striking features; hence it is difficult to catch a likeness of him, for few of his portraits resemble him. All his answers discover good sense, consummate prudence, and great diffidence of himself; but at the same time, an un-

alterable firmness in the part he has once embraced. His modesty cannot but be particularly astonishing to a Frenchman. He speaks of the American war, as if he had not been the conductor of it; and of his victories with an indifference with which no stranger could mention them. I never saw him grow warm, or depart from that coolness which characterises him, except when talking on the present state of America. The divisions of his country rend his soul. He feels the necessity of rallying all the friends of liberty around a central point, and of giving energy to the government. To his country he is still ready to sacrifice that quiet which constitutes his happiness. Happiness, said he to me, is not in grandeur, is not in the bustle of life. This philosopher was so thoroughly convinced of the truth of this, that from the moment of his retreat, he broke off every political connexion, and renounced every place in the government; yet in spite of such a renunciation, of such disinterestedness, of such modesty, this astonishing man has enemies! He has been villified in the newspapers; he has been accused of ambition, of in-



trigue, when all his life, when all America, can witness his disinterestedness, and the rectitude of his conduct: Virginia is perhaps the sole country where he has enemies; for no where else have I heard his name pronounced but with respect, mixed with affection and gratitude. You would think the Americans were speaking of their father. It would be wrong, perhaps, to compare *WASHINGTON* with the most celebrated warriors: but he is the model of a republican; displaying all the qualities, all the virtues of one.

He spoke to me of Mr. La Fayette with tenderness. He considered him as his son; and saw with joy mixed with anxiety, the part he was about to play in the revolution preparing in France. Of the issue of that revolution he had his doubts: if he knew, on the one hand, the ardour of the French in rushing into extremes, he knew on the other their profound idolatry for their ancient government and their monarchy, the inviolability of which appeared to him ridiculous.

After having spent about three days in the house of that celebrated man, who loaded me with civilities, and gave me much information respecting both the late war and the present situation of the United States, I returned with regret to Alexandria.

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*Extract from a periodical publication, entitled the "Miscellaniſt," written in Dublin, by W. P. Carey.*

ABOVE the cruel views of the conqueror who, actuated by the lust of fame, shuts his ears to the supplications of pity, and hardening his heart for the work of devastation, wars to establish a shining infamy, by the destruction of his fellow-creatures, on the smoking ruins of desolated kingdoms, the great WASHINGTON fought to befriend and save mankind, in defence of whatever is most dear to the generous breast of enlightened patriotism. Distinguished, in an eminent degree, for the great qualities of the Mace-

donian and Swedish heroes, yet unfulfilled by the savage cruelty and intemperance of the one, or mad ambition and obstinacy of the other, he possessed the rare gift of uniting all the sublime talents requisite in the founder of a mighty empire, with the polished refinements of civilized society, and the softest feelings of humanity. A stranger to profusion, yet generous in every instance where liberality was a virtue; during the late troubles, his fortune was employed in succouring merit, rewarding bravery, promoting discipline in the soldiery, and subordination to the new established government, in the citizens. At a time when the calamities incident to a state of civil warfare, fell heavy on all ranks, but principally on the middle class of his countrymen, his beneficence, which seemed to shun the public eye, would in all probability be lost in oblivion, but for the voice of those whom he freed from the accumulated miseries of famine, sickness, and imprisonment. Many of his good deeds are passed over by the writers of his time, amidst the striking details of battles, of sieges, and military manoeuvres, with which the general curiosity is

often more pleased, than with the less glaring portrait of private virtue. Born with abilities to unite the jarring interests of a number of states, and be the leader of a brave and injured people, nature has not been less favorable to him in corporal than in mental endowments. His person is majestic and striking, his physiognomy is prepossessing, and strongly expressive of the noble qualities of his soul: the dignity of his appearance inspires an awe, which keeps the unacquainted beholder at a respectful distance, until the easy politeness of his manner, formed to gain the affections without artifice, and the modest frankness of his conversation, fraught with judicious reflexions, founded on a thorough knowledge of human nature, insensibly banish the coldness of reserve, and induce the philosopher, the soldier, and polished gentleman, to quit his company with regret, filled with sentiments of enthusiastic reverence and admiration.

Having pursued the blessings of peace through the horrors of war, he forced an eulogium on his conduct, from the mouths of his

enemies; and, on the ruins of British tyranny, founded the immortal fabric of his country's independence; leaving this salutary monition to all ruling powers, never in the exulting moment of national prosperity, to force an injured people from their allegiance, by forgetting that the protection of the community was the primary cause of the election of individuals to the delegated sceptre of majesty. The fatal effects which England has justly felt from her own disgraceful and oppressive schemes against America, should serve as a caution to prevent all statesmen from pursuing the narrow policy and base purposes of illiberal faction: it should instruct them never to sacrifice the interests of one body of subjects to the unjust aggrandisement of another; but equally to extend the benefits of a wise and wholesome legislation to all parts of the empire; as a contrary conduct will inevitably return the blow aimed at the rights of society, in tenfold ruin, on the guilty oppressors, by weakening the state with jealousies and civil dissensions, which will leave it an easy prey to a foreign enemy, or insensibly dismember and finally subvert the established government.

Having equalled the greatest heroes of antiquity in glory, the illustrious *WASHINGTON* surpassed them in virtue and exemplary moderation; when his fellow-soldiers laid aside the sword to add lustre to the arts—to cultivate their native fields, and to enrich the United States, by a beneficial commerce—when the childless father, the lone orphan, and the widowed mourner, restored to the bosom of peace, and the blessings of plenty, forgot their sorrows, and ceased to weep over the means of their slaughtered relations—the American hero resigned his command; he refused the liberal rewards offered him by his grateful country; he was contented with the just approbation of a virtuous conscience, and quitting the splendid honors of a public life, he retired to the station of a private citizen.

In whatever light we view the character of this truly great man, we are struck with fresh cause for esteem and admiration; we every moment discover new and shining traits of humanity, of wisdom, and disinterested heroism: we see united in him the distinguished virtues of a good citizen,

an experienced general, an upright senator, and a wise politician; we behold him rising superior to every mean consideration of self-love, hazarding his fortune in the cause of freedom, cheerfully submitting to bear the name of rebel, and braving an ignominious death, to which he would inevitably have fallen a sacrifice had Britain triumphed in the contest; we behold him furnishing an example the most glorious to the world, the most animating to the nations which yet groan beneath the arm of oppression, an example the most interesting to humanity, and capable of nerving the palsied arm of age, or even of cowardice itself; we behold him like another Aaron, the sacred delegate of heaven, leading to the field a brave but ill appointed and new raised army, to contend with the ablest generals and best disciplined troops of the mightiest empire in the universe; we behold him often without money, and ill supplied with provisions, braving the accumulated severities of an American winter's campaign, inuring his soldiers to fatigue, and training them by the practice of military evolutions, to defeat the attacks of a powerful enemy; we

view him stedfastly pursuing the great line of conduct which he had marked out at the commencement of hostilities, mitigating the calamities of war, preventing the effusion of human blood, wasting the forces of his adversaries, tiring out the British nation by avoiding a decisive action; and finally triumphing over every obstacle which seemed insurmountably to oppose the progress of his arms, and the freedom of his country. The rash and unthinking, who estimate a commander by the multitudes whom he has destroyed, by the cities which he has sacked, and the provinces which he has desolated, may choose some ferocious conqueror for the idol of their reverence. The philanthropist, who laments the miseries which fall on mankind by the usurpation and ambition of kings, and the philosopher, who judges of the abilities of a general by the tenor of his plans; and their confidence with his situation and resources, will not hesitate to pronounce the Great WASHINGTON equal, if not superior to the most shining characters in ancient or modern history.



## Gen. Washington's Will.

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VIRGINIA, Fairfax ss. }

I, GEORGE DENEALE, Clerk of Fairfax County Court, do Certify, That the subsequent Copy of the last Will and Testament of GEORGE WASHINGTON, deceased, late President of the United States of America, with the Schedule annexed, is a true Copy from the original recorded in my Office.

*In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 23d day of January, 1800.*

GEO. DENEALE, C. F. C.

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IN THE NAME OF GOD, AMEN.

I GEORGE WASHINGTON, of Mount Vernon, a Citizen of the United States,

and lately President of the same, Do make, ordain, and declare this instrument, which is written with my own hand, and every page thereof subscribed with my name,\* to be my LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT, revoking all others.

*Imprimus*—All my debts, of which there are but few, and none of magnitude, are to be punctually and speedily paid; and the legacies herein after bequeathed, are to be discharged as soon as circumstances will permit, and in the manner directed.

*Item*—To my dearly beloved wife *Martha Washington*, I give and bequeath the use, profit, and benefit of my whole estate, real and personal, for the term of her natural life, except such parts thereof as are specially disposed of hereafter. My improved lot in the town of Alexandria, situated on Pitt and Cameron-streets, I give to her and her heirs forever; as I also do my household and kitchen furniture of every sort and

\* In the original manuscript, *GEORGE WASHINGTON'S* name is written at the bottom of every page.

kind, with the liquors and groceries which may be on hand at the time of my decease, to be used and disposed of as she may think proper.

*Item*—Upon the decease of my wife, it is my will and desire, that all the slaves which I hold in *my own right*, shall receive their freedom. To emancipate them during her life, would, tho' earnestly wished by me, be attended with such insuperable difficulties on account of their intermixture by marriages with the dower negroes, as to excite the most painful sensations, if not disagreeable consequences to the latter, while both descriptions are in the occupancy of the same proprietor, it not being in my power, under the tenure by which the dower negroes are held, to manumit them. And whereas among those who will receive freedom according to this devise, there may be some who, from old age, or bodily infirmities, and others, who, on account of their infancy, will be unable to support themselves, it is my will and desire, that all who come under the first and second description, shall be comfortably cloathed and fed by my heirs while they

live; and that such of the latter description as have no parents living, or, if living, are unable or unwilling to provide for them, shall be bound by the Court until they shall arrive at the age of 25 years: and in cases where no record can be produced, whereby their ages can be ascertained, the judgment of the Court, upon its own views of the subject, shall be adequate and final. The negroes thus bound, are (by their masters or mistresses) to be taught to read and write, and be brought up to some useful occupation, agreeably to the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia providing for the support of orphan and other poor children. And I do hereby expressly forbid the sale or transportation out of the said Commonwealth, of any slave I may die possessed of under any pretence whatsoever. And I do moreover most pointedly and most solemnly enjoin it upon my Executors hereafter named, or the survivor of them, to see that *this* clause respecting slaves, and every part thereof, be religiously fulfilled at the epoch at which it is directed to take place, without evasion, neglect, or delay, after the crops which may then be on

the ground are harvested, particularly as it respects the aged and infirm ; seeing that a regular and permanent fund be established for their support, as long as there are subjects requiring it, not trusting to the uncertain provision made by individuals.—And, to my mulatto man *William* (calling himself *Wm. Lee*,) I give immediate freedom, or if he should prefer it (on account of the accidents which have befallen him, and which have rendered him incapable of walking or of any active employment) to remain in the situation he now is, it shall be optional in him to do so ; in either case, however, I allow him an annuity of 30 dollars during his natural life, which shall be independent of the victuals and cloathes he has been accustomed to receive, if he chuses the last alternative ; but in full with his freedom, if he prefers the first ; and this I give him as a testimony of my sense of his attachment to me, and for his faithful services during the Revolutionary War.

*Item*—To the Trustees (Governors, or by whatsoever other name they may be designated)

of the Academy in the town of Alexandria, I give and bequeath, in trust, 4000 dollars, or, in other words, 20 of the shares which I hold in the bank of Alexandria, towards the support of a Free School, established at, and annexed to, the said Academy, for the purpose of educating orphan children, or the children of such other poor and indigent persons, as are unable to accomplish it with their own means, and who, in the judgment of the Trustees of the said Seminary, are best entitled to the benefit of this donation. The aforesaid 20 shares I give and bequeath in perpetuity; the dividends only of which are to be drawn for, and applied by the said Trustees, for the time being, for the uses above mentioned; the stock to remain entire and untouched, unless indications of failure of the said bank should be so apparent, or a discontinuance thereof, should render a removal of this fund necessary. In either of these cases, the amount of the stock here devised is to be vested in some other bank, or public institution, whereby the interest may with regularity and certainty be drawn and applied as above. And, to prevent

misconception, my meaning is, and is hereby declared to be, that these 20 shares are in lieu of, and not in addition to, the 1000l. given by a missive letter some years ago, in consequence whereof, an annuity of 50l. has since been paid towards the support of this institution.

*Item*—Whereas by a law of the Commonwealth of Virginia, enacted in the year 1785, the Legislature thereof was pleased (as an evidence of its approbation of the services I had rendered the public during the Revolution, and partly, I believe, in consideration of my having suggested the vast advantages which the community would derive from the extension of its inland navigation under Legislative patronage) to present me with 100 shares of 100 dollars each, in the incorporated Company established for the purpose of extending the navigation of *James River* from the tide-water to the mountains; and also with 50 shares of 100l. sterling each in the corporation of another Company likewise established for the similar purpose of opening the navigation of the river *Potowmac* from the tide-water to Fort

Cumberland; the acceptance of which, altho' the offer was highly honourable and grateful to my feelings was refused as inconsistent with a principle which I had adopted, and had never departed from—namely, not to receive pecuniary compensation for any services I could render my country in its arduous struggle with Great Britain for its rights, and because I had evaded similar propositions from other States in the Union: Adding to this refusal, however, an intimation, that, if it should be the pleasure of the Legislature to permit me to appropriate the said shares to *Public Uses*, I would receive them on those terms with due sensibility; and this it having consented to, in flattering terms, as will appear by a subsequent law and sundry resolutions, in the most ample and honourable manner—I proceed, after this recital, for the more correct understanding of the case, to declare, That as it has always been a source of serious regret with me, to see the youth of these United States sent to foreign countries for the purposes of Education, often before their minds were formed, or they had imbibed any adequate ideas of the



happiness of their own, contracting, too frequently, not only habits of dissipation and extravagance, *but principles unfriendly to Republican Government, and to the true and genuine Liberties of Mankind*, which, thereafter are rarely, overcome—For these reasons, it has been my ardent wish to see a plan devised, on a liberal scale, which would have a tendency to spread systematic ideas through all parts of this rising Empire, thereby to do away local attachments and state prejudices, as far as the nature of things would, or indeed ought to admit from our national Councils. Looking anxiously forward to the accomplishment of so desirable an object as this is (in my estimation) my mind has not been able to contemplate any plan more likely to effect the measure, than the establishment of a UNIVERSITY in a central part of the United States, to which the youths of fortune and talents from all parts thereof might be sent for the completion of their education in all the branches of polite Literature, in the Arts and Sciences, in acquiring knowledge in the principles of Politics and good Government, and, as a matter of infinite im-

portance in my judgment, by associating with each other, and forming friendships in juvenile years, be enabled to free themselves, in a proper degree, from those local prejudices and habitual jealousies which have just been mentioned, and which, when carried to excess, are never-failing sources of disquietude to the public mind, and pregnant of mischievous consequences to this country. — Under these impressions, so fully dilated,

*Item*—I give and bequeath, in perpetuity, the 50 shares which I hold in the Potowmac company (under the aforesaid Acts of the Legislature of Virginia) towards the endowment of a UNIVERSITY, to be established within the limits of the District of *Columbia*, under the auspices of the General Government, if that Government should incline to extend a fostering hand towards it; and until such Seminary is established, and the funds arising on these shares shall be required for its support, my further will and desire is, that the profit accruing therefrom, shall, whenever the dividends are made, be laid out in

purchasing stock in the Bank of *Columbia*, or some other bank, at the discretion of my Executors, or by the Treasurer of the United States for the time being, under the direction of Congress, provided that honourable Body should patronize the measure; and the dividends proceeding from the purchase of such stock are to be vested in more stock, and so on, until a sum adequate to the accomplishment of the object is obtained, of which I have not the smallest doubt before many years pass away, even if no aid or encouragement is given by legislative authority, or from any other source.

*Item*—The hundred shares which I hold in the James River Company, I have given, and now confirm, in perpetuity, to and for the use and benefit of *Liberty Hall Academy*, in the County of Rockbridge, in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

*Item*—I release, exonerate, and discharge the estate of my deceased brother, *Samuel Washington*, from the payment of the money which is

due to me for the land I fold to Philip Pendleton (lying in the county of Berkeley,) who assigned the same to him, the said *Samuel*, who, by agreement, was to pay me therefor: And whereas by some contract (the purport of which was never communicated to me) between the said *Samuel* and his son *Thornton Washington*, the latter became possessed of the aforesaid land, without any conveyance having passed from me, either to the said *Pendleton*, the said *Samuel*, or the said *Thornton*, and without any consideration having been made, by which neglect, neither the legal nor equitable title has been alienated, it rests therefore with me, to declare my intentions concerning the premises; and these are, to give and bequeath the said land to whomsoever the said *Thornton Washington* (who is also dead) devised the same, or to his heirs forever, if he died intestate, exonerating the estate of the said *Thornton*, equally with that of the said *Samuel*, from payment of the purchase money, which, with interest, agreeably to the original contract with the said *Pendleton*, would amount to more than 1000l. And whereas two other sons of my said

deceased brother, *Samuel*, namely, *George Steptoe Washington* and *Lawrence Augustine Washington*, were, by the decease of those to whose care they were committed, brought under my protection, and, in consequence, have occasioned advances on my part for their education at college and other schools, and for their board, cloathing, and other incidental expences, to the amount of near 5000 dollars, over and above the sums furnished by their estate, which sum it may be inconvenient for them or their father's estate to refund—I do, for these reasons, acquit them and the said estate from the payment thereof, my intentions being, that all accounts between them and me, and their father's estate and me, shall stand balanced.

*Item*—The balance due to me from the estate of *Bartholomew Dandridge*, deceased (my wife's brother) and which amounted, on the first day of October 1795, to 425l. (as will appear by an account rendered by his deceased son, *John Dandridge*, who was the acting executor of his father's will) I release and acquit from the payment thereof. And the Negroes (then 33 in number)

formerly belonging to the said estate, who were taken in execution, sold, and purchased in on my account in the year——, and ever since have remained in the possession and to the use of *Mary*, widow of the said *Barth. Dandridge*, with their increase, it is my will and desire, shall continue and be in her possession, without paying hire, or making compensation for the same, for the time past or to come, during her natural life; at the expiration of which, I direct, that all of them who are 40 years old and upwards, shall receive their freedom; all under that age and above 16, shall serve 7 years, and no longer; and all under 16 years shall serve until they are 25 years of age, and then be free. And to avoid disputes respecting the ages of any of these Negroes, they are to be taken into the Court of the County in which they reside, and the judgment thereof, in this relation shall be final, & record thereof made, which may be adduced as evidence at any time thereafter, if disputes should arise concerning the same. And I further direct, that the heirs of the said *Barth. Dandridge* shall, equally, share the benefits arising from the services of the said

negroes, according to the tenor of this devise, upon the decease of their mother.

*Item*—If *Charles Carter*, who intermarried with my niece *Betty Lewis*, is not sufficiently secured in the title to the lots he had of me in the town of *Fredericksburg*, it is my will and desire, that my executors shall make such conveyances of them as the law requires to render it perfect.

*Item*—To my nephew *William Augustine Washington*, and his heirs (if he should conceive them to be objects worth prosecuting) a lot in the town of *Manchester* (opposite to *Richmond*) No. 265, drawn on my sole account, and also the tenth of 1 or 200 acre lots, and two or three half-acre lots, in the city and vicinity of *Richmond*, drawn in partnership with nine others, all in Lottery of the deceased *William Byrd*, are given ; as is also a lot which I purchased of *John Hood*, conveyed by *William Willie* and *Sam. Gordon*, trustees of the said *John Hood*, numbered 139, in the town of *Edinburgh*, in the county of *Prince George*, state of *Virginia*.

*Item*—To my nephew *Bushrod Washington*, I give and bequeath all the papers in my possession which relate to my civil and military administration of the affairs of this Country; I leave to him also such of my private papers as are worth preserving; and at the decease of my wife, and before, if she is not inclined to retain them, I give and bequeath my library of books and pamphlets of every kind.

*Item*—Having sold lands which I possessed in the state of Pennsylvania, and part of a tract held in equal right with George Clinton, late Governor of New York, in the state of New York, my share of land and interest in the Great Dismal Swamp, and a tract of land which I owned in the County of Gloucester—withholding the legal titles thereto, until the consideration-money should be paid—and having moreover leased, and conditionally sold (as will appear by the tenor of the said leases) all my lands upon the Great Kenhawa, and a tract upon Difficult Run in the county of Loudon, it is my will and direction, that whensoever the contracts are fully



and respectively complied with, according to the spirit, true intent and meaning thereof, on the part of the purchasers, their heirs or assigns, that then, and in that case, conveyances are to be made, agreeable to the terms of the said contracts, and the money arising therefrom, when paid, to be vested in bank stock; the dividends whereof, as of that also which is already vested therein, is to inure to my said wife during her life, but the stock itself is to remain and be subject to the general distribution hereafter directed.

*Item*—To the *Earl of Buchan* I re-commit “the Box made of the Oak that sheltered the brave *Sir William Wallace* after the battle of Falkirk”, presented to me by his Lordship in terms too flattering for me to repeat, with a request “to pass it, on the event of my decease to the man in my country who should appear to merit it best, upon the same conditions that have induced him to send it to me.”—Whether easy or not, to select THE MAN who might comport with his Lordship’s opinion in this respect, is not for me to say; but conceiving that no disposition of

this valuable curiosity can be more eligible than the recommitment of it to his own cabinet, agreeably to the original design of the Goldsmiths, Company of Edinburg, who presented it to him, and, at his request, consented that it should be transferred to me—I do give and bequeath the same to his Lordship; and, in case of his decease, to his heir, with my greatful thanks for the distinguished honour of presenting it to me, and more especially for the favourable sentiments with which he accompanied it.

*Item*—To my brother *Charles Washington*, I give and bequeath the gold-headed Cane left me by Dr. Franklin, in his will. I add nothing to it, because of the ample provision I have made for his issue. To the acquaintances and friends of my juvenile years, *Lawrence Washington* and *Robert Washington*, of Chotanck, I give my other two gold-headed Canes, having my arms engraved on them; and to each (as they will be useful where they live) I leave one of the Spy Glases, which constituted part of my equipage during the late war. To my compatriot in arms

and old and intimate friend, Dr. *Craik*, I give my Bureau or, as the Cabinet Makers call it, Tambour Secretary and the circular Chair an appendage of my Study. To Dr. *David Stuart*, I give my large Shaving and Dressing Table, and my Telescope. To the Reverend, now, *Bryan Lord Fairfax*, I give a Bible in three large folio volumes, with notes, presented to me by the Rt. Rev. *Thomas Wilson*, Bishop of Sodor and Man. To General *De la Fayette*, I give a pair of finely wrought Steel Pistols, taken from the enemy in the Revolutionary War. To my sisters in Law, *Hannah Washington* and *Mildred Washington*—to my friends *Eleanor Stuart*, *Hannah Washington*, of Fairfield, and *Elizabeth Washington* of Hayfield, I give, each, a Mourning Ring of the value of 100 dollars. These bequests are not made for the intrinsic value of them, but as mementoes of my esteem and regard. To *Tobias Lear*, I give the use of the farm which he now holds, in virtue of a lease from me to him and his deceased wife (for and during their natural lives) free from rent during his life; at the expiration of which, it is to be disposed of as is herein after

directed. To *Sally B. Haynie* (a distant relation of mine) I give and bequeath 300 dollars. To *Sarah Green*, daughter of the deceased *Thomas Bishop*, and to *Ann Walker*, daughter of *John Alton*, also deceased, I give each 100 dollars, in consideration of the attachment of their fathers to me, each of whom having lived nearly forty years in my family. To each of my Nephews, *William Augustine Washington*, *George Lewis*, *George Steptoe Washington*, *Bushrod Washington*, and *Samuel Washington*, I give one of the Swords, or Cutteaux, of which I may die possessed; and they are to choose in the order they are named. These swords are accompanied with an injunction, not to unsheath them for the purpose of shedding blood, except it be for self-defence, or in defence of their Country and its Rights; and in the latter case, to keep them unsheathed, and prefer falling with them in their hands to the relinquishment thereof.

And now, having gone through these specific Devices, with explanations for the more correct understanding of the meaning and design of

them, I proceed to the distribution of the more important parts of my Estate, in manner following:—

*First*—To my nephew, *Bushrod Washington*, and his heirs, (partly in consideration of an intimation to his deceased father, while we were bachelors, and he had kindly undertaken to superintend my estate during my military services in the former war between Great Britain and France, that if I should fall therein, Mount Vernon, then less extensive in domain than at present should become his property) I give and bequeath all that part thereof which is comprehended within the following limits, viz. Beginning at the ford of Dogue Run near my mill, and extending along the road, and bounded thereby, as it now goes and ever has gone since my recollection of it, to the ford of Little Hunting Creek, at the Gum Spring, until it comes to a knowl opposite to an old road which formerly passed through the lower field of Muddy-hole Farm, at which, on the north side of the said road, are three red or Spanish oaks marked as a corner, and a stone placed—thence

by a line of trees to be marked rectangular, to the back line or outer boundary of the track between Thomas Mafon and myself—thence with that line easterly (now double ditching, with a post-and rail fence thereon) to the run of Little Hunting Creek—thence with that run which is the boundary between the lands of the late H. Peake and me, to the tide water of the faid creek—thence by that water to Potowmac River—thence with the river to the mouth of Dogue Creek—and thence with the faid Dogue Creek to the place of beginning at the aforefaid ford; containing upwards of 4000 acres, be the same more or less, together with the Mansion House and all other buildings and improvements thereon.

*Second*—In consideration of the consanguinity between them and my wife, being as nearly related to her as to myself, as on account of the affection I had for, and the obligation I was under to, their father, when living, who, from his youth, had attached himself to my person, and followed my fortunes through the vicissitudes of

the late Revolution, afterwards devoting his time to the superintendence of my private concerns for many years, whilst my public employments rendered it impracticable for me to do it myself, thereby affording me essential services, and always performing them in a manner the most filial and respectful—For these reasons, I say, I give and bequeath to *George Fayette Washington* and *Lawrence Augustine Washington*, and their heirs, my estate east of Little Hunting Creek, lying on the river Potowmac, including the farm of 360 acres, leased to *Tobias Lear*, as noticed before, and containing in the whole, by deed, two thousand and twenty-seven acres, be it more or less; which said estate it is my will and desire, should be equitably and advantageously divided between them, according to quantity, quality, and other circumstances, when the youngest shall have arrived at the age of 21 years, by three judicious and disinterested men; one to be chosen by each of the brothers, and the third by these two. In the mean time, if the termination of my wife's interest therein should

have ceased, the profits arising therefrom are to be applied for their joint uses and benefit.

*Third*—And whereas it has always been my intention, since my expectation of having issue has ceased, to consider the grand-children of my wife, in the same light as I do my own relations, and to act a friendly part by them, more especially by the two whom we have raised from their earliest infancy—namely, *Eleanor Park Custis*, and *George Washington Park Custis*. And whereas the former of these hath lately intermarried with *Lawrence Lewis*, a son of my deceased sister, *Betty Lewis*, by which union the inducement to provide for them both has been increased, Wherefore I give and bequeath to the said *Lawrence Lewis* and *Eleanor Park Lewis*, his wife, and their heirs, the residue of my Mount Vernon estate, not already devised to my Nephew, *Bushrod Washington*, comprehended within the following description, viz. All the land north of the road leading from the ford of Dogue Run to the Gum Spring, as described in the devise of the other part of the tract to *Bushrod Washington*



until it comes to the stone and three red or Spanish oaks on the knoll; thence with the rectangular line to the back line (between Mr. Mason and me) thence with that line westerly along the new double ditch to Dogue Run by the tumbling dam of my mill; thence with the said run to the ford afore mentioned; to which I add all the land I possess west of the said Dogue Run and Dogue Creek, bounded easterly and southerly thereby; together with the mill, distillery, and all other houses and improvements on the premises; making together about 2000 acres, be it more or less.

*Fourth*—Actuated by the principle already mentioned, I give and bequeath to *George Washington Park Custis*, the grandson of my wife, and my ward, and to his heirs, the tract I hold on Four Mile Run, in the vicinity of Alexandria, containing 1200 acres, more or less, and my entire square, No. 21, in the city of Washington.

*Fifth*—All the rest and residue of my estate, real and personal, not disposed of in manner

aforesaid, in whatsoever consisting, wheresoever lying, and wheresoever found, (a Schedule of which as far as is recollected, with a reasonable estimate of its value, is hereunto annexed) I desire may be sold by my Executors, at such times, in such manner, and on such credits (if an equal, valid, and satisfactory distribution of the specific property cannot be made without) as in their judgment shall be most conducive to the interest of the parties concerned, and the monies arising therefrom to be divided into 23 equal parts, and applied as follows, viz. To *William Augustine Washington*, *Elizabeth Spotswood*, *Jane Thornton*, and the heirs of *Ann Ashton*, son and daughters of my deceased brother *Augustine Washington*, I give and bequeath four parts, that is, one part to each of them: To *Fielding Lewis*, *George Lewis*, *Robert Lewis*, *Howell Lewis*, and *Betty Carter*, sons and daughter of my deceased sister *Betty Lewis*, I give and bequeath five other parts, one to each of them: To *George Steptoe Washington*, *Lawrence A. Washington*, *Harriot Parks*, and the heirs of *Thornton Washington*, sons and daughter of my deceased brother *Samuel Washington*, I give

and bequeath the other four parts, one part to each of them: To *Corbin Washington*, and the heirs of *Jane Washington*, son and daughter of my deceased brother *John A. Washington*, I give and bequeath two parts, one part to each of them: To *Samuel Washington*, *Frances Ball*, and *Wildred Hammond*, son and daughters of by brother *Cha. Washington*, I give and bequeath three parts, one part to each of them; and to *Geo. F. Washington*, *Cha. Aug. Washington*, and *Maria Washington*, sons and daughter of my deceased nephew, *Geo. A. Washington*, I give one other part, that is, to each a third of that part: To *Eliz. Park Law*, *Martha Park Peter*, and *Eleanor Park Lewis*, I give and bequeath three other parts, that is, a part to each of them: And, to my nephews, *Bushrod Washington* and *Law. Lewis*, and to my Ward, the grand-son of my wife, I give and bequeath one other part, that is, a third thereof to each of them. And if it should so happen, that any of the persons whose names are here enumerated (unknown to me) should now be dead, or should die before me, that in either of these cases, the heirs of such

deceased persons shall, notwithstanding, derive all the benefits of the bequest, in same manner as if he or she was actually living at the time. And, by way of advice, I recommend to my Executors not to be precipitate in disposing of the landed property (therein directed to be sold) if from temporary causes the sale thereof should be dull; experience having fully evinced, that the price of land, especially above the falls of the rivers and on the western waters, have been progressively rising and cannot be long checked in its increasing value. And I particularly recommend it to such of the Legatees (under this clause of my will) as can make it convenient to take each a share of my stock in the Potomac Company, in preference to the amount of what it might sell for—being thoroughly convinced myself, that no uses to which the money can be applied, will be so productive as the tolls arising from this navigation when in full operation (and this from the nature of things it must be ere long) and more especially if that of the Shenandoah is added thereto.

The Family Vault at *Mount Vernon*, requiring repairs, and being improperly situated besides, I desire that a new one of brick, and upon a larger scale, may be built at the foot of what is commonly called the Vineyard inclosure, on the ground which is marked out—In which my remains, with those of my deceased relations (now in the old Vault) and such others of my Family as may chuse to be entombed there, may be deposited. And it is my express desire, that my corps may be interred in a private manner, without parade or funeral oration.

*Lastly*—I constitute and appoint my dearly beloved wife *Martha Washington*, my nephews *William Augustine Washington*, *Bushrod Washington*, *George Steptoe Washington*, *Samuel Washington*, and *Lawrence Lewis*, and my Ward *George Washington Park Custis* (when he shall have arrived at the age of 20 years) Executrix and Executors of this my WILL and TESTAMENT—In the construction of which, it will readily be perceived, that no professional character has been consulted, or has had any agency in the draught; and, that

although it has occupied many of my leisure hours to digest, and to throw it into its present form, it may notwithstanding, appear crude and incorrect—but having endeavoured to be plain and explicit in all the Devises, even at the expence of prolixity, perhaps of tautology, I hope and trust, that no disputes will arise concerning them; but if, contrary to expectation, the case should be otherwise from the want of legal expression, or the usual technical terms, or because too much or too little has been said on any of the Devises to be consonant with law, my Will and Direction expressly is, that all disputes (if unhappily any should arise) shall be decided by three impartial and intelligent men, known for their probity and good understanding—two to be chosen by the disputants, each having the choice of one, and the third by those two—which three men thus chosen shall, unfettered by law or legal constructions, declare the sense of the testator's intentions; and such decision is, to all intents and purposes, to be as binding on the parties as if it had been given in the Supreme Court of the U. States.

*IN WITNESS of all and each of the things herein contained, I have set my Hand and Seal, this ninth Day of July, in the Year one thousand seven hundred and ninety——\* and of the Independence of the United States the twenty-fourth.*

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

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## SCHEDULE

*Of property comprehended in the foregoing WILL, directed to be sold, and some of it conditionally is sold, with discriptive and explanatory notes thereto.*

### IN VIRGINIA.

	acres.	price.	dollars.
Loudon co. Difficult Run,	300		6,666 <sup>a</sup>
Loudon and Faquier,			
Ashby's Bent,	2481	10d.	24,810
Chattin's Run,	885	8	7,080
Berkley, S. fork of Boullifkin,	1600		
Head of Evan's m.	453		
In Wormley's line,	183		
	2236	20	44,720 <sup>c</sup>

\* It appears the Testator omitted the word *nine*.

Frederick, bo't from Mercer,	571 20	11,420 <i>d</i>
Hampshire, on Potomac river above B,	240 240 15	3,600 <i>e</i>
Gloucester, on North river,	400 <i>about</i>	3,600 <i>f</i>
Nansemond, near Suffolk, one third of 1,119 acres,	373 373 8	2,984 <i>g</i>
Great Dismal Swamp, my dividant thereof,	<i>about</i>	20,000 <i>h</i>
Ohio river, Round Bottom,	587	
Little Kanhawa,	2314	
	—	
	2901	
Sixteen miles lower down,	2448	
Opposite Big Bent,	4395	
	— <i>dollars.</i>	
	8744 10	97,440 <i>i</i>

## GREAT KANHAWA.

Near the North West,	10,180	
East side above,	7,276	
Mouth of Cole river,	2,000	
Opposite thereto, 2,950 }		
Burning Spring, 125 }	3,075	
	—	200,000 <i>k</i>

## MARYLAND.

Charles County,	600 6	3,600 <i>l</i>
Montgomery ditto,	519 12	6,229 <i>m</i>

## PENNSYLVANIA.

Great Meadows,	234 5	1,404 <i>n</i>
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## NEW-YORK.

Mohawk river,	<i>about</i> 1000 6	6,000 <i>o</i>
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## NORTH WEST TERRITORY.

On little Miami,	339		
Ditto,	977		
Ditto,	1235		
	<hr/>		
	3251	5	15,251 <sup>p</sup>

## KENTUCKY.

Rough Creek,	3000		
Ditto adjoining,	2000		
	<hr/>		
	5000	2	10,000 <sup>g</sup>

LOTS, *viz.*

## CITY OF WASHINGTON.

Two near the capitol, square 634, cost 963 dollars, and with buildings,		15000 <sup>r</sup>
Nos. 5, 12, 13, and 14, the three last water lots on the Eastern Branch, in square 667, containing together 34,438 square feet, at twelve cents,		4132 <sup>s</sup>

## ALEXANDRIA.

Corner of Pitt and Prince streets, half an acre laid out into buildings, three or four of which are let on ground rent at three dollars per foot,	4000 <sup>t</sup>
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## WINCHESTER.

A lot in the town of half an acre, and another in the commons of about six acres supposed	400 <sup>u</sup>
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## BATH OR WARM SPRINGS.

Two well situated, and had buildings to the amount of 1501.	800 <sup>v</sup>
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## STOCK.

## UNITED STATES.

Six per cent.	3,746	
Ditto deferred,	1,873	} 2,500
Three per cent,	2,946	
	<hr/>	624670

## POTOMAC COMPANY.

Twenty-four shares cost each 100l. sterling	10666x
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## JAMES RIVER COMPANY.

Five shares, each cost 100 dollars.	500y
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## BANK OF COLUMBIA.

One hundred and seventy shares, cost 40 dollars each.	6800z
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## BANK OF ALEXANDRIA.

Besides 20 shares to the free school—5	1000
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## STOCK LIVING, viz.

One covering horse, five carriage horses, four riding ditto, six brood mares, 20 working horses and mares, 2 covering jacks, and 3 young ones, 10 she asses, 42 working mules, 15 younger ones, 329 head of horned cattle, 640 head of sheep, and a large stock of hogs, the precise number unknown— My manager has estimated this live stock at 7,000l. but I shall set it down in order to make a round sum, at

*Aggregate amount,*

15653  

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530,000

## NOTES.

*a.* This tract, for the size of it is valuable, more for its situation than the quality of its soil, though that is good for farming; with a considerable proportion of ground, that might very easily be improved into meadow. It lies on the great road from the city of Washington, Alexandria, and George-Town, to Leesburgh and Winchester, at Difficult Bridge, nineteen miles from Alexandria, less from the city and George-Town, and not more than three from Matildaville, at the great falls of Potomac. There is a valuable feat on the premises, and the whole is conditionally sold for the sum annexed in the schedule.

*b.* What the selling prices of lands in the vicinity of these two tracts are, I know not; but compared with those above the ridge, and others below it, the value annexed will appear moderate; a less one would not obtain them from me.

*c.* The surrounding land not superior in soil,

situation or properties of any sort, sells currently at from twenty to thirty dollars an acre. The lowest price is affixed to these.

*d.* The observations made in the last note, apply equally to this tract, being in the vicinity of them, and of similar quality although it lies in another county.

*e.* This tract, though small, is extremely valuable. It lies on Potomac river, about twelve miles above the town of Bath (or Warm Springs) and is in the shape of a horse-shoe, the river running almost around it. Two hundred acres of it are rich low grounds, with a great abundance of the largest and finest walnut trees, which with the produce of the soil, might (by means of the improved navigation of the Potomac) be brought to a shipping port with more ease, and at a smaller expence, than that which is transported thirty miles only by land.

*f.* This tract is of second rate Gloucester low grounds. It has no improvements thereon, but lies on navigable water, abounding in fish and

oysters. It was received in payment of a debt (carrying interest) and valued in the year 1789 by an impartial gentleman, at 800l.—N. B. It has lately been sold, and there is due thereon a balance equal to what is annexed in the schedule.

*g.* These 373 acres are the third part of undivided purchases made by the deceased Fielding Lewis, Thos. Walker and myself, on full conviction that they would become valuable.—The land lies on the road from Suffolk to Norfolk, touches (if I am not mistaken) some part of the navigable water of Nansemond river; the rich Dismal Swamp is capable of great improvement, and, from its situation, must become extremely valuable.

*h.* This is an undivided interest which I held in the great Dismal Swamp Company, containing about 4000 acres, with my part of the plantation and stock thereon, belonging to the company in the said Swamp.

*i.* These several tracts of land are of the first

quality on the Ohio river, in the parts where they are situated, being almost, if not altogether, river bottoms. The smallest of these tracts is actually sold at ten dollars an acre, but the consideration therefor not received. The rest are equally valuable, and will sell as high, especially that which lies just below the Little Kanhawa; and is opposite a thick settlement on the west side of the river. The four tracts have an aggregate breadth upon the river of sixteen miles, and are bounded there by that distance.

*k.* These tracts are situated upon the Great Kanhawa river, and the first four are bounded thereby for more than 40 miles. It is acknowledged by all who have seen them (and of the tract containing 10990 acres, which I have been on myself, I can assert) that there is no richer or more valuable land in all that region. They are conditionally sold for the sum mentioned in the schedule, that is, 200000 dollars, and if the terms of that sale are not complied with, they will command considerable more—The tract, of which the 125 acres is a moiety, was taken up by Gen-

eral Andrew Lewis and myself, for, and on account of a bitumenous spring which it contains, of so inflammable a nature, as to burn as freely as spirits, and is nearly as difficult to extinguish.

*l.* I am but little acquainted with this land, altho' I have once been on it. It was received (many years since) in discharge of a debt due to me from Daniel Jenifer Adams, at the value annexed thereto, and must be worth more. It is very level—lies near the river Potomac.

*m.* This tract lies about 30 miles above the city of Washington, not far from Kittoctan. It is good farming land, and by those who are well acquainted with it, I am informed that it would sell at twelve or fifteen dollars per acre.

*n.* This land is valuable on account of its local situation and other properties. It affords an exceeding good stand on Braddock's road from Fort Cumberland to Pittsburg; and besides a fertile soil, possesses a large quantity of natural meadow, fit for the scythe. It is distinguished by the appellation of the Great Meadows, where the

first action with the French, in the year 1754, was fought.

*o.* This is the moiety of about 2000 acres which remains unfold, of 6071 acres on the Mohawk river (Montgomery county) in a patent granted to Daniel Coxe, in the township of Coxeborough and Carolina, as will appear by deed, from Marinus Willet and wife, to George Clinton (late governor of New York) and myself. The latter sales have been at six dollars an acre, and what remains unfold will fetch that or more.

*p.* The quality of these lands and their situation, may be known by the surveyor's certificates, which are filed along with the patents. They lie in the vicinity of Cincinnati; one tract near the mouth of the little Miami; another seven, and the third ten miles up the same. I have been informed that they will readily command more than they are estimated at.

*q.* For the description of those tracts in detail, see General Spotswood's letters filed with the other papers relating to them. Besides the gen-



eral good quality of the land, there is a valuable bank of iron ore thereon, which, when the settlement becomes more populous (and settlers are moving that way very fast) will be found very valuable, as the Rough Creek, a branch of Green River, affords ample water for furnaces and forges.

LOTS, *viz.*

### CITY OF WASHINGTON.

*r.* The two lots near the capitol, in square 634, cost me 963 dollars only; but in this price I was favored, on condition that I should build two brick houses three story high each: without this reduction the selling prices of these lots would have cost me about 1350 dollars. These lots, with the buildings on them when completed, will stand me in 15,000 dollars at least.

*s.* Lots Nos. 5, 12, 13 and 14, on the eastern branch, are advantageously situated on the water; and although many lots much less convenient have sold a great deal higher, I will rate these at 12 cents the square foot only.

## ALEXANDRIA.

t. For this lot, though unimproved, I have refused 3500 dollars. It has since been laid off into proper sized lots for building on, three or four of which are let on ground rent for ever, at three dollars a foot on the street; and this price is asked for both fronts on Pitt and Prince-street.


## WINCHESTER.

u. As neither the lot in the town or common have any improvements on them, it is not easy to fix a price; but as both are well situated, it is presumed the price annexed to them in the schedule is a reasonable valuation.

## BATH.

v. The lots in Bath (two adjoining) cost me to the best of my recollection between 50 and 60 pounds, 20 years ago; and the buildings thereon 150l. more. Whether property there has increased or decreased in its value, and in what conditions the houses are, I am ignorant—but suppose they are not valued too high.

## STOCK.

*w.* These are the sums which are actually funded, and though no more in the aggregate than 7,566 dollars, stand me in at least ten thousand pounds, Virginia money; being the amount of bonded and other debts due to me, and discharged during the war, when money had depreciated in that rate— and was so settled by public authority.

*x.* The value annexed to these shares is what they actually cost me, and is the price affixed by law; and although the present selling price is under par, my advice to the Legatees (for whose benefit they are intended, especially those who can afford to lie out of the money) is that each should take and hold one—there being a moral certainty of a great and increasing profit arising from them in the course of a few years.

*y.* It is supposed that the shares in the James River Company must also be productive: But of this I can give no decided opinion, for want of more accurate information.

2. These are the nominal prices of the shares in the Banks of Alexandria and Columbia; the selling prices vary according to circumstances; but as the stock usually divides from eight to ten per cent per annum, they must be worth the former, at least, so long as the Banks are conceived to be secure, altho' circumstances may sometimes make them below it.

The value of the live stock depends more upon the quality than quantity of the different species of it; and this again upon the demand and judgment, or fancy of purchasers.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

*Mount Vernon, }*  
*July 9, 1799. }*

*General WASHINGTON'S Correspondence with Lord BUCHAN, respecting the Box, mentioned in his Will.*

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 4, 1792.

On Friday was presented to the President of the United States, GEORGE WASHINGTON, a Box, elegantly mounted with silver, and made of the celebrated oak tree that sheltered the patriotic Sir WILLIAM WALLACE of Scotland, after the unfortunate battle of Falkirk about the year 1300. This very curious and characteristical present is from the Earl of Buchan, by the hand of Mr. Archibald Robertson, a Scotch gentleman, and a portrait painter, who arrived in America some months ago. The Box was presented to Lord Buchan by the Goldsmith's Company of Edinburgh, from whom his Lordship requested, and obtained leave, to make it over to the Man whom he deemed more deserving of it than himself, and GEORGE WASHINGTON was the Man.

We further learn, that Lord Buchan has re-

quested of the President, that, on the event of his decease, he will consign the Box to that Man, *in this Country*, who shall appear, in his judgment, to merit it best, upon the same considerations that induced him to send it to America. [See the Will, p. 363.]

Upon the Box, which is curiously wrought, is a silver plate with the following inscription:—  
“*Presented by the Goldsmiths of Edinburgh to David Stewart Erskine, Earl of Buchan, with the freedom of their Corporation, by their Deacon—A. D. 1792.*”

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Copy of the LETTER from Lord BUCHAN to General WASHINGTON, accompanying the Box.

*Dryburgh Abbey, June 28, 1791.*

“SIR,

“I had the honour to receive your Excellency’s letter, relating to the advertisement of Dr. Anderson’s periodical publication, in the Gazette of the United States; which attention

to my recommendation I feel very sensibly, and return you my grateful acknowledgments.

“ In the 21st No. of that Litterary Miscellany, I inserted a monitary paper respecting America, which I flatter myself, may, if attended to on the other side the Atlantic, be productive of good consequences.

“ To use your own emphatic words, “ May that Almighty Being who rules over the Universe—who presides in the Councils of nations—and whose providential aid can supply every human defect, consecrate to the Liberties and Happiness of the American people, a government instituted by themselves for public and private security, upon the basis of Law and equal administration of justice, preserving to every individual as much civil and political freedom as is consistent with the safety of the nation.”— And may HE be pleased to continue your life and strength as long as you can be in any way useful to your Country !

“ I have entrusted this sheet inclosed in a

Box, made of the Oak that sheltered our Great Sir William Wallace, after the battle of Falkirk, to Mr. Robertson, of Aberdeen, a Painter, with the hope of his having the honour of delivering it into your hands; recommending him as an able Artist, seeking for fortune and fame in the New World. This box was presented to me by the Goldsmith's Company at Edinburgh, to whom, feeling my own unworthiness to receive this magnificently significant present, I requested and obtained leave to make it over to the man in the world to whom I thought it most justly due. Into your hands I commit it, requesting of you to pass it, on the event of your decease, to the Man, in your own country who shall appear to your judgment to merit it best, upon the same considerations that have induced me to send it to your Excellency.

“ I am, Sir, with the highest esteem,  
Your Excellency's most obedient  
And obliged humble servant,

BUCHAN.

“ General WASHINGTON, President }  
of the United States of America. }



“P. S—I beg your Excellency will have the goodness to send me your Portrait, that I may place it among those I most honour, and I would wish it from the pencil of Mr. Robertson. I beg leave to recommend him to your countenance; as he has been mentioned to me favourably by my worthy friend, Professor Oglive, of King’s College, Aberdeen.

---

TWO LETTERS from General WASHINGTON to  
Lord BUCHAN.

*Philadelphia, May 1, 1792.*

“MY LORD,

“I should have had the honour of acknowledging sooner the receipt of your letter of the 28th of June last, had I not concluded to defer doing it till I could announce to you the transmission of my portrait, which has just been finished by Mr. Robertson (of New-York) who has also undertaken to forward it. The manner of the execution of it does no discredit, I am told,

to the artist, of whose skill favourable mention has been made to me. I was further induced to entrust the execution of it to Mr. Robertson, from his having informed me that he had drawn others for your Lordship, and knew the size which best suited your collection.

“I accept, with sensibility and with satisfaction, the significant present of the box which accompanied your Lordship's letter.

“In yielding the tribute due from every lover of mankind to the patriotic and heroic virtues of which it is commemorative, I estimate, as I ought, the additional value which it derives from the hand that sent it, and my obligation for the sentiments that induced the transfer.

“I will, however, ask, that you will exempt me from the compliance with the request relating to its eventual destination.

“In an attempt to execute your wish in this particular, I should feel embarrassment, from a

just comparifon of relative pretenfions, and fear to rifk injuftice by fo marked a preference.

“With fentiments of the trueft efteem and confideration, I remain your Lordfhip’s moft obedient fervant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

Earl of BUCHAN.

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*Philadelphia, April 22, 1793.*

“MY LORD,

“The favourable wifhes which your Lordfhip has exprefsed for the profperity of this young and rifing country, cannot but be gratefully received by all its Citizens, and every lover of it; one mean to the contribution of which, and its happinefs, is very judiciously pourtrayed in the following words of your letter, “To be little heard of in the great world of politics.” Thefe words, I can afure your Lordfhip, are exprefive of my fentiments on this head; and I believe it is the fincere wifh of United America, to

have nothing to do with the political intrigues or the squabbles of European nations; but, on the contrary, to exchange commodities, and live in peace and amity with all the inhabitants of the earth; and this I am persuaded they will do, if rightfully it can be done. To administer justice to, and receive it from every power they are connected with, will, I hope, be always found the most prominent feature in the administration of this Country; and I flatter myself that nothing short of imperious necessity can occasion a breach with any of them. Under such a system, if we are allowed to pursue it, the agriculture and mechanical arts—the wealth and population of these States, will increase with that degree of rapidity, as to baffle all calculation; and must surpass any idea your Lordship can, hitherto, have entertained on the occasion.

“To evince that our views (whether realized or not) are expanded, I take the liberty of sending you the plan of a new City, situated about the centre of the union of these States, which is designed for the permanent seat of the

Government; and we are this moment deeply engaged, and far advanced in extending the inland navigation of the river (Potomac) on which it stands, and the branches thereof, through a tract of as rich country for hundreds of miles, as any in the world. Nor is this a solitary instance of attempts of the kind, although it is the only one which is near completion, and in partial use. Several other important ones are commenced, and little doubt is entertained, that in ten years, if left undisturbed, we shall open a communication by water with all the Lakes northward and westward of us with which we have territorial connections; and an inland navigation, in a few years more, may be carried into effect from Rhode-Island to Georgia, partly by cuts between the great Bays and Sounds, and partly between the islands and the main, from Albemarle Sound to St. Mary's river. To these should be added, the erection of bridges over rivers, and the making of turnpike roads, as further indications of improvements."——



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